





# National strike urged by union in Civil Service

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

Leaders of a second Civil Service union last night decided to urge their members to reject the Government's final offer, which it hoped would settle the 20-week long pay dispute.

An executive meeting of the 45,000-strong Civil Service Union, which represents low-grade staff, including cleaners, messengers and doorkeepers, decided that the Government's offer of a £30 lump payment on top of the original 7 per cent was "woefully inadequate".

It will recommend meetings of its section executives next week to reject the offer and acknowledge that the consequence would be an all-out strike.

The executive of the 100,000-strong Society of Civil and Public Servants recommended rejection last week. Leaders of the other seven unions are putting the offer to their members with no recommendation and with varying degrees of enthusiasm.

Left-wingers, particularly in the largest union, the Civil and Public Services Association, will be campaigning over the next week to get the offer rejected and embark on the first all-out national strike.

A meeting of 800 members of the CPSA at the big Department of Health and Social Security complex at Newcastle

upon Tyne voted last night overwhelmingly to reject the offer. The meeting also called for the resignation of the union executive.

Mr Leslie Moody, the CPSA general secretary, said after the meeting last night: "We are not prepared to deceive our members. If we are talking about increasing pressure on the Government, that has got to lead to all-out strike action. That is a drastic decision to take but we must face the fact that we cannot look forward to another 20 weeks of selective action."

All the unions will be making clear to their members that the alternative to accepting the offer is all-out action, because they do not have the funds to sustain selective disruption beyond the beginning of next month.

From tomorrow civil servants around the country will be meeting to discuss the offer. Despite the decisions of the two union executives to recommend rejection, union leaders still believe that the offer will get the acceptance of most of the country's 530,000 white-collar government staff.

Amalgamation leaders are to meet again on August 3 for the first time since the Government's pay offer to accept. The National Union of Public Employees prefers the flat six per cent over 12 months.

# Bow Group urges Prior to tackle closed shops

By George Clark, Political Correspondent

The Government's second Bill on the trade unions, expected next session, must touch on the immunity of unions and their funds, and also tackle the obnoxious features of the closed shop, Mr George Gardiner, Conservative MP for Reigate, says in a Conservative Bow Group pamphlet published today.

His publication coincides with an application being made in the Commons by another Conservative, Mr Ivan Lawrence, QC, MP for Burton, for leave to introduce a Bill dealing with the closed shop.

If it is put to the vote, it should provide Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, with a guide to the strength of feeling on the Tory backbenches for a more thorough-going Bill dealing with the closed shop and union immunities.

Mr Gardiner says that an analysis of the published submissions from the most significant employers and management bodies in response to Mr Prior's Green Paper on trade union immunities shows an extraordinary degree of unanimity.

That, with the clearly expressed view of Tory backbenchers, he says, gives Mr Prior a splendid opportunity to

present a Bill that would get union backing from the Conservative Party in Parliament as well as from industrial and commercial opinion outside.

To win that united backing the bill must contain two essential ingredients. They are:

Further measures to curb the closed shop, including higher compensation for workers losing their jobs in consequence, prohibition of union labour only clauses in contracts, and a provision enabling Bow Groups already in closed shops to decide whether they should continue, and restriction of present trade-union immunity in some clearly defined circumstances, selected on the basis of which would have the most beneficial effect on Britain's economic performance.

He says there is no doubt that public expectation of a Conservative Government would curtail the abuse of trade union power and create a better legal framework within which industrial relations could be practised played a big part in the Conservatives winning the general election.

The *New Employment Bill*: Aims at enabling Bow Groups to give an average price of £12.79 a gallon, and that will also increase by a further 11.4p in September. Motorists will be affected by the decision to increase VAT from 10 per cent to 15 per cent from September.

Beer will go up immediately by 2p a pint and in September with increased VAT by 6p a pint. Wines and spirits will be similarly affected. Cigarettes will cost an extra 4p from today and 8p more for a packet of 20 from September.

Petrol will cost an extra 4p to give an average price of £12.79 a gallon, and that will also increase by a further 11.4p in September. Motorists will be affected by the decision to increase VAT from 10 per cent to 15 per cent from September.

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# Big budget rises in Ireland

From a Correspondent, Dublin

The Irish Government seemed certain last night to squeeze through its deflationary budget proposals for big increases in drink, cigarettes, petrol and VAT.

There were fears that the five independent members on whom the future of the coalition depends would vote against the Government and precipitate a general election. Dr Garrett Fitzgerald had given a warning earlier that the proposals were a matter of confidence.

The first of a series of votes on measures designed to deal with the "financial emergency" produced an 82-79 verdict in the government's favour.

Mr John Bruton, the Minister for Finance, said the measures were the first stage in a campaign to reconstruct the nation's finances on a secure

basis. "They mark a positive and determined effort to return to the principle of living within our means."

Motorists, smokers and drinkers will all be hit, and everyone will be affected by the decision to increase VAT from 10 per cent to 15 per cent from September.

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# FitzGerald speaks out on Irish unification

By Tim Jones and Richard Ford

Dr Garrett FitzGerald, the Irish Prime Minister, claimed yesterday that British politicians were secretly in favour of a United Ireland.

He told the *Dail*, the Irish Parliament, that the British Government had a crucial role in helping to unite the island. "That role should be played in a positive manner by indicating publicly what many British political leaders say in private: that they wish to see the unity of the people of Ireland and that they will support everything that promotes the achievement of that objective with the consent of the people of Northern Ireland."

His statement is bound to fuel the fears of the "loyalist" majority in Northern Ireland, who have been deeply suspicious of the continuing talks between Dublin and Westminster. It is that dialogue which led Mr Ian Paisley to launch his "Garrison" rally, alleging that Britain was preparing to sell out Northern Ireland to the Republic.

Dr FitzGerald said yesterday that talks concerning the hunger-strike crisis were continuing at the highest level but no plans had been made for a meeting at ministerial level.

Senior Irish Government ministers believe privately that the hunger-strike have hardened the position of the British Government to the point of intransigence.

Ministers in Dublin are particularly dismayed that the prisoners are now insisting on direct negotiations with a member of the British Government in the presence of Mr Brendan McParlane, whom the republican prisoners describe as their officer commanding.

Meanwhile, Mr Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, yesterday blamed the move to end the Maze crisis on the hunger strikers.

He said in a BBC Radio 2 interview that a message had been received from a priest that one of the men wanted to talk to the prison governor and a Northern Ireland official to discuss the crisis.

But the version of the events which led to the early morning visit by two officials to the prison was immediately disputed by the father of Kieran Doherty, aged 24, who entered the strike on the day of his funeral. He claimed they had no knowledge of the invitation.

During yesterday's 30-minute visit, two officials met the families of Mr Doherty and Mr Kevin Lynch, another hunger striker, and the other hunger strikers in the prison hospital. However, Mr Atkins said, it became clear that the prisoners wanted to negotiate, which he said "we will not do. We are not prepared to negotiate with convicted prisoners who are, after all, convicted of the most heinous crimes."

Mr FitzGerald last night reaffirmed the Government's determination not to concede political status to IRA prisoners (the Press Association reports).

In a letter, made public yesterday, to members of the Parliamentary Labour Party's Northern Ireland Group, she wrote: "There are certain principles which we are not prepared to break. We will not concede political status, and we will not hand over control of the prisons for which we are responsible."

The mother of Eibhlin Hughes, a hunger striker, Thomas McElwee, was welcomed to County Hall yesterday by Mr Kenneth Livingstone, leader of the Greater London Council, who said that "people fighting for their freedom" had his support.

Mr McElwee, who yesterday was completing the fortyfourth day of his fast in the Maze, is serving a 20 year sentence for manslaughter.

His mother's visit was condemned by Sir George Cuthbert, Conservative opposition leader, who said: "This is nothing to do with the G.L.C. It is a self-seeking publicity move by Livingstone to embarrass the Government at London's expense."



Mr Heseltine at a Toxteth school: "Incredible children."

# Loyalty impresses Heseltine

From John Young, Liverpool

Several semi-detached blocks of three-storey "walk-up" flats, many with their windows boarded up, residents called out to him to come and see their conditions.

Brian and Catherine Kennedy, who pay £22 a week for their three-bedroom flat, complained that sewage from a blocked pipe was welling up through the floor of an empty flat next door. "I had to nail up the door to keep the smell out," Mr Kennedy said.

Their block has had 20 fires in two years. Another was flooded four weeks ago and Alan and Marian Nolan have been without gas, electricity or water ever since. Last week their flat was broken into by vandals who smashed everything in sight.

Earlier, after talks with trade unions, Mr Heseltine visited Paddington Comprehensive School on the edge of Toxteth. Mr Heseltine visited the school on the edge of Toxteth. Mr Heseltine visited the school on the edge of Toxteth.

was suddenly surrounded by a group of laughing, shouting children who appeared to see him as a means of getting their faces on television.

Later he said that what had impressed him almost more than anything else was their warmth and spontaneity. "I do not think you can escape from the incredible impact of the children who are so alert, so friendly, so witty and so aware of what's going on."

The unofficial amnesty declared yesterday to encourage the return of goods looted in the Toxteth riots began disappointingly. In the first two hours the only thing to be brought in to St James's Hall, in Windsor Street, was a box of sweets.

The amnesty was the idea of the Rev Colin Bedford, Rector of Toxteth Town Ministry.

At St Clement's Church, Beaufort Street, close to the main area of looting, the Rev David Thompson said he was not disappointed at the response so far. "The week is young."

# Councils shackled by MPs

By Christopher Warman, Local Government Correspondent

Local authorities in Scotland and soon perhaps in England and Wales could face the future as mere agents of central government as the result of a vote in the House of Commons last night.

By giving the Secretary of State for Scotland the power to withhold £47m grant from Lothian Regional Council and small amounts from Dundee and Stirling District Councils, the House placed local authorities in a straitjacket.

They are not allowed to raise a supplementary rate or to borrow to make good the loss. Either they must make the cuts in spending or end in bankruptcy.

At present English and Welsh authorities are empowered to raise supplementary rates but Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, is considering legislation which could similarly restrict them if this year's potential £800m overspending is not reduced.

Lothian's penalty of £47m compares with £53m which Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, originally announced he would withhold.

The council now has a few days in which to submit a revised budget or to make representations to Mr Younger before he announces the final penalty.

It is possible that he will reduce the penalty to a level the council may be able to achieve.

Mr John Crichton, convenor of Lothian, said as he arrived in London to lead a delegation in opposition to the penalty that the council would mean redundancy for some 15,000 staff of the council, doubling unemployment in Lothian. That would be the only way to reduce spending by the amount required.

If the council refuses to make cuts, the proposed loss of government grant out of its £350m revenue budget could leave the council in difficulty in paying its bills.

The council's situation, that the council is in a straitjacket, is a result of the fact that the council is in a straitjacket.

# Group launched to keep Labour in the EEC

By Our Political Staff

A movement to keep a future Labour government in the European Community was launched at Westminster yesterday.

It has the short title of The Red Rose, the red rose being the symbol of the French and Spanish Socialist parties, and a long title of the Labour Movement for a Socialist Europe.

Its intention, declared on the day Labour's National Executive Committee approved a strategy for withdrawal from the Community, is to pick up the standard dropped by the disbanded Labour Committee for Europe, the body affiliated to the European Movement which coordinated the efforts of Labour pro-

Marketsters before and after Britain's accession to the Community in 1973, and at the time of the referendum on membership in 1975.

The Red Rose's chairman, Mr Arthur Palmer, MP for Bristol North-East, said yesterday that the NEC should reconsider its plans for withdrawal, because the election of a Socialist Government in France had profoundly altered the situation.

The NEC claimed that Community rules would prevent a Labour government from taking the steps needed to bring about industrial growth. But the French Government planned to introduce the same kind of economic measures which Labour was promising.

# Timetable for withdrawal

The timetable for Labour's withdrawal from the EEC, which was approved yesterday by the national executive committee will be published with the full 23-page document by the party on Monday.

Extracts follow:

Given the right framework, a timetable of a degree of clarity, political commitment, we believe that the process can be carried out effectively, and above all, in a way which will be in the best interests of the country.

The kind of timetable we have in mind includes the following:

1. Prior to the general election, we would seek to undertake the necessary preliminary discussions, at whatever level is thought to be appropriate, in order to discuss the broad outline of our proposals. It would be clearly understood, however, that the negotiations themselves could only take place after the election.

2. Shortly after our return to power, we will open preliminary negotiations to establish the necessary framework for the withdrawal process. This timetable would be published as a White Paper, within weeks of our taking office, as possible, after the House assembly, we will introduce a Bill to amend the 1972 European Communities Act, which gives authority to the United Kingdom to the Treaty of Accession. This will end completely the power of the Community to make and implement law in the United Kingdom and abolish the powers of the European Court over British Courts. In this Bill we will also make provision for the repeal, possibly by statutory instrument, of those sections of Community law which have been imposed on the United Kingdom and which we do not find acceptable; and we will take all the powers we need to carry through the agreed timetable.

3. The main negotiations should be immediately after the publication of the White Paper. In particular, they will include the negotiation of new agreements on trade; and they will involve negotiations with our EEC partners and with non-EEC countries. We may not at this stage, withdraw from the Council of Ministers or from the Council of Ministers, but we will disengage ourselves from the mass of EEC regulations, directives and decisions, and from the complex

administrative arrangements involved, for example, in running the CAP in Britain. At the same time we will, of course, be phasing in alternative domestic arrangements.

Equally, as the various steps of negotiations come to fruition, we would wish to phase in the new arrangements. It will be necessary, for example, to allow other countries time to adjust to the fact that we are outside the Community. (I am aware that to purchase goods from Australia or New Zealand then these countries will need time to gear up their industries to exploit the new market. The council take considerable time and in some areas therefore, the process of transition might extend beyond the time for our final withdrawal from the EEC.)

As the final stage in withdrawal, we would repeal the 1972 European Communities Act, thus breaking all our formal membership links with the Community and draw from all of the EEC institutions, including the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers. As we have noted, up to this point we would have maintained a formal "representation" on the various institutions. This would now end.

It is not clear at this stage how long, from the time of the election, it would take before we could complete this process. However, our aim is to complete it within twelve months although the various transitional arrangements, and the process of clearing up the various bits of legislation, might go well beyond this date.

The NEC says that as part of the process of withdrawal it will be necessary to repeal or amend a considerable amount of Community legislation which has been enacted as a result of membership. Furthermore, it will be necessary to renegotiate those pieces of Community legislation which it is hoped to retain but whose legal force is based on primary legislation which will be repealed as part of the process of withdrawal.

It is possible that all of this could be repealed in one huge Repeal Bill. But this is unlikely to be the best procedure, since it would almost certainly mean providing to the Government (in practice, Whitehall) a mass of delegated powers.

In conclusion, the NEC says membership of the EEC was presented in 1975 as the "miracle cure" which would solve political, industrial and economic difficulties. Instead, the cure has turned out to be worse than the disease.

# Brutality allegations

# Manchester police to investigate claims

By Peter Evans and Lucy Hodges

Mr James Anderton, Chief Constable of Greater Manchester, yesterday announced the appointment of a senior officer from the force to investigate allegations of police brutality there during the riots, as reported in *The Times*. The inquiry will be conducted by Mr John Stalker, Assistant Chief Constable.

The Bishop of Manchester, the Right Rev. Stanley Booth-Clibborn, Mrs Gabriella Cox, vice-chairman of the Police Committee, and Dr Donald Bodey, the Manchester general practitioner who gave to *The Times* details of injuries to patients, said they would help the investigation.

Although they are anxious to protect their sources, they will suggest to witnesses that evidence be given to the inquiry in order that allegations can be properly investigated.

Dr Bodey said that there is not much confidence in the community at Moss Side in police inquiries into allegations against them.

Mrs Cox said yesterday that she had mentioned the allegations to Mr Desmond O'Brien, an assistant chief constable, and to Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, during his visit to Manchester.

The police committee of the Labour Party's Greater Manchester Council decided yesterday to recommend to the full council that a team should be appointed to conduct an independent inquiry into the circumstances which led up to the riots, how the riots were handled by the police and leaders of the minority communities and what could be done to prevent a recurrence.

A proposal for Manchester City Council to hold an independent inquiry into the riots was defeated yesterday.

Dr Richard Clutterbuck, a politics lecturer at Exeter University and an expert on political violence, criticized yesterday's report in *The Times*. Speaking on the BBC Radio Wales programme *Moss Side Lunch*, he said the report had no accounts of injuries to policemen. "When you get that kind of reporting in the press it is grossly unbalanced and in my opinion irresponsible," he said.

"What you need is balance, and the balance is that in these 10 days of rioting not a single person was killed and not a single person was injured, not a single rioter was seriously injured. I know of no police force in Greater Manchester who have a record like that, bearing in mind the intensity of some of these riots."

Dr Clutterbuck, who is the author of a recent book, *The Media and Political Violence*, said that the detailed accounts of injuries to four people given by a doctor suggested that the police used violence.

Anyone who had seen people arrested by the police would know it even money that they would fight like hell.

Replying to him on the programme, Mr Fred Emery, home editor of *The Times*, said that reports of mistreatment by police had to be investigated. "These were allegations by doctors and other people in the community who had been eyewitnesses to what had happened."

"We were very careful in putting our reporters to talk to the police about what happened and even to put at the same time a long interview with the Chief Constable of Manchester alongside these allegations [in later editions]. He did not deny them."

Mr Anderton issued the following statement yesterday. "The newspaper has today disclosed details of cases in which police are said to have assaulted members of the public during the recent riots in Manchester. Preliminary enquiries suggest that none of the cases mentioned is included among the eleven complaints of alleged assault by police today under consideration of a very general nature quite unconnected with assault have also been made to police."

Following my meeting last night at my club, the Grosvenor, *The Times*, I have appointed an assistant chief constable John Stalker, the Greater Manchester police chief constable, to investigate all the reports. Each of the reports, including the Bishop of Manchester, Mrs Gabriella Cox, the vice-chairman of the Greater Manchester Police Committee, will be interviewed by the investigating officers and invited to give evidence to substantiate their comments to the press.

Any other persons who wish to bring complaints or grievances to my notice will be given a similar opportunity to produce evidence which further police and legal action can be considered.

I wish to dispel forthwith any interference that senior and supervisory officers in the Greater Manchester police force, would condone the use of any unwarranted violence by police and that the police are in any way complicit in such matters.

"I must emphasize that broad and generalised complaints of police violence, unsupported by any direct evidence, are calculated to leave in the minds of the public a feeling of considerable unease. For officers immediately, I invite anyone with knowledge specific to tell us to come forward and make their feelings known."

"I think it is timely to remind the general public of the extreme gravity of the riotous behaviour. During the critical three hour period in the middle of each successive nighty disturbance the Greater Manchester police have a record like that, bearing in mind the intensity of some of these riots."

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# MPs press plan to stem rise in racist attacks

By Lucy Hodges

A seven-point plan of action urging the Government to take immediate action to stem the increase in racist attacks on Asians has been presented to the Home Secretary by the all-party Joint Committee Against Racism.

It calls for specialized police units to monitor and investigate racist attacks, for racist agitators from abroad to be refused entry to Britain and for local authorities to be told not to allow public buildings to be used by racist organizations.

The report contains a confidential list of racist attacks and vicious assaults by organized gangs which, the committee says, shows that a substantial number of such attacks are planned and premeditated and that many form part of a pattern of organized terror.

Speedy action of the kind listed is urgently required if

the problems posed by racist attacks are to be dealt with, the committee says.

The report has gone to the Home Office as supplementary evidence for Mr William Whitelaw's own inquiry into racist attacks set up earlier this year. It also calls for a review of the Public Order Act, to give more priority to creating jobs and leisure activities

# Fire bomb attack on Asians

An Asian family were treated for the effects of smoke inhalation yesterday after a fire bomb attack on their home in Middlesbrough.

The house, in Aire Street, South Bank, was occupied by Mr Nurez Zaman, aged 21, his wife and his parents, aged 52 and 55, and Mr Zaman's 10-week-old son, Abu. Only the baby was detained in hospital, where his condition was satisfactory.

The baby was later allowed home.

The incident happened shortly after 2 am and the family were able to flee the terrace house quickly because, owing to the daylight fast of Ramadan, they were cooking and eating their meals at night.

Police want to trace a white youth in his late teens who was seen running away. He was described as 5ft 10in tall, with short, dark curly hair and wearing a dirty denim jacket, dirty blue jeans and black boots.

Detective Chief Inspector Michael Birch, who is leading the inquiry, said the police were approaching the inquiry with an entirely open mind, but it was being treated very seriously because of the possible consequences.

Mr Zaman said: "Our relations with young white people in this area have worsened in recent months, but we never expected this."

# Riot courts

LOOTER IS JAILED FOR 3 MONTHS

Robin Patrick Baker, aged 26, unemployed, of Gopsall Street, Leicester, was sent to jail for three months by Leicester magistrates yesterday after admitting burglary and having an offensive weapon.

Three bars of soap and two roller fresheners looted from a shop were found on him after he was arrested during rioting in the city.

Robert Hazell, aged 22, a Queens Park Rangers footballer, chose to go for trial at a crown court when charged at Birmingham with going equipped to steal petrol early on July 11 in the Kingstanding area of the city.

He is jointly charged with Peter Hazell, aged 17, brother and a youth aged 17, and Anthony Martin, aged 24, both unemployed, were jailed for six months by Maidstone Magistrates possessing petrol bombs.

Gerald O'Brien, aged 27, a BBC employee, of Bassett Road, North Kensington, who armed himself with an iron bar for protection against rioters in Notting Hill disturbances recently, was given an absolute discharge at Marylebone Court.

At the same court, Marie Price, alias Rasta Nymbin, aged 18, unemployed, of Lancaster Road, Notting Hill, denied having kned a policeman in the groin and punched him in the stomach. He was acquitted.

# Man in the news

# Don who sparked off rail pay crisis

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Correspondent

As the British Rail pay talks began at Euston yesterday the man whose tribunal findings sparked off the current wages crisis was back at his desk at Notting Hill College refusing interviews and trying to complete his standard work on strikes since the war.

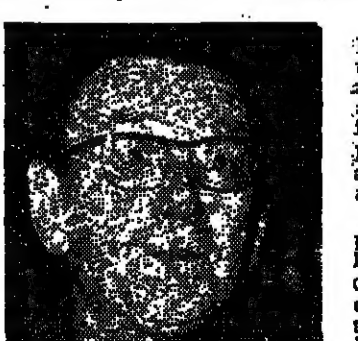
If there is an industrial relations establishment, then Lord McCarthy, the small, bespectacled and unobtrusive Oxford don who has headed the Railway Staff National Tribunal since 1974, is part of it.

A Wilson peer, who headed research for the Donovan Commission on trade unions and for Mrs Barbara Castle's Employment Department, Lord McCarthy has kept intact his reputation as one of the country's most experienced mediators since he first started sorting out disputes in 1968.

His formidable pedigree did not stop one exasperated senior BR man last week from sounding off against the three-man tribunal and calling into question the future credibility of McCarthy as an arbitrator.

Lord McCarthy has never made any secret that he is a Labour man. He left school at 14, worked first in a men's outfitters, and then after the Army as a clerk.

It was his union, the old



Lord McCarthy: High reputation as a mediator.

When he worked for the Donovan Commission he was the first academic to sit down and assess what shop stewards actually did in British industry, finding in a now often quoted phrase that they were more of a "lubricant" than an "irritant".

Although he has never publicly admitted it, he is known to have refused a job offered by Mr Heath on the commission for Industrial Relations, not so much because he himself was opposed to the commission, but because the unions were insisting it was Lord McCarthy believed that it was doomed without the support of one side of industry.

All of which, coupled with the generosity of the board's point of view of his current recommendation of 10.5 per cent increase, might suggest that Lord McCarthy has a strong bias in favour of the Labour movement.

The other two members of the tribunal are Mr George Doughty, the former TASS general secretary, and Mr Ted Choppin, a former senior oil company executive, and the tribunal's decisions have always, since Lord McCarthy took over, been essentially part of the machinery that the decisions are not binding on the parties.

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حزب الامت الاخضر



## Teacher training courses may be cut by a quarter

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

A proposal to cut by a quarter next year's intake into postgraduate teacher training courses is expected to be approved by the Government's Advisory Committee on the Supply and Education of Teachers when it meets today.

The proposal is in a draft paper of advice to the Government on the future of the teacher training system in England and Wales. Earlier drafts have already been approved by the committee's teacher training and school staffing subcommittees.

No change is recommended in next year's intake into the three- and four-year Bachelor of Education courses, partly because enrolments last year were 40 per cent below the planned target and are expected to remain low, but mostly because an immediate reduction in the number of newly trained teachers is required and cutting the 1982 BEd intake would not affect output numbers until 1985 or 1986.

The committee believes that the planned supply of newly trained teachers will substantially exceed the projected demand throughout the 1980s, though it questions some of the Department of Education and Science's more pessimistic figures relating to the number of former teachers that are expected to return to the profession.

But even according to the committee's more optimistic projections, the total number of job vacancies for teachers is expected to fall from nearly 35,000 last year to 3,000-11,000 in 1981-82, and is expected to remain at below 25,000 for the rest of the decade.

The jobs available for newly trained teachers (as opposed to qualified teachers returning) are expected to fall from about 20,000 last year to about 5,500 in 1981-82, rising on the committee's best estimates to no more than 14,000 by 1989-90. Yet the present system is geared to produce about 17,000 newly trained teachers each year.

The committee recommends that in the long term the planned output should be lowered by about 10 per cent to 15,500. Allowing for the fact that about one in nine newly trained teachers do not seek teaching posts, that would yield about 13,500 a year.

It recommends that the cuts be made on a selective basis having regard to the needs of schools in terms of specialized subjects and phases (infant, primary and secondary), the quality of courses, the size of institutions and a reasonable geographical spread of provision.

The 25 per cent cut in the intake into the one-year Postgraduate Certificate in Education courses is intended as an emergency short-term measure.

## Doctors 'can cure 500,000 smokers a year'

By Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Correspondent

More than 500,000 people a year would stop smoking if all family doctors advised their patients to give it up and provided a leaflet about how to manage it, recent research shows.

A study carried out at the Maudsley Hospital, south London, has shown that five per cent of smokers stopped the habit when told by their doctors how and why to give up. They were still non-smokers a year later.

The Health Education Council, which published the findings in its annual report yesterday, said that at first sight the cessation rate seemed slight compared to the 20-30 per cent achieved by smoking withdrawal clinics, but on closer examination it was encouraging.

"At clinics the smokers are a small, self-selected, highly motivated group, led by a trained health professional. In this study the smokers were unselected."

The important implication of this work is that a GP with an average list who adopts the routine of giving unsolicited advice and a leaflet to all smoking patients can expect 25 long-term successes each year," the report says.

On a national basis success of that kind would amount to 500,000 people giving up smoking a year.

Health Education Council, Annual Report 1980-81 (HEC, 78 New Oxford Street, London, WC1A 1AF, free).

## Whitehall's 'chief thinker' stays silent

### The highbrow with a low profile

By Peter Heennessy

Today should have been a red letter day for Whitehall watchers. For the first time since leaving ICI and joining the Central Policy Review Staff as its director, Mr Robin Ibbes looked like being obliged to make a public appearance to explain before a Commons select committee what the think tank has been up to in the past 16 months.

Sadly, he will now retain his status as the invisible man of Whitehall at least until November, as the Treasury and Civil Service Committee, running out of time to prepare its interim report on nationalized industries finance, has asked would he mind forgoing his appointment this afternoon to talk about efficiency and value for money in the Civil Service.

By all accounts he was glad to accommodate the request, being very busy with his own study of the relationship between Whitehall and the public sector. Nor, it seems, was he enthusiastic about breaking the policy of silence that had led him to refuse all press interviews and invitations to give public lectures.

There is a double irony about this afternoon's non-event. For apart from keeping in touch, chiefly through the medium of Mr Richard Prescott, a principal on his staff, with the work of his Cabinet Office neighbour, Sir Derek Rayner, the Prime Minister's adviser on the elimination of waste, Mr Ibbes and his team have taken little or no interest in the questions preoccupying the committee in its efficiency inquiry.



Mr. Robin Ibbes: A ready smile.

Few people, by contrast, would be better placed to tell the committee's members about the condition of nationalized industry finance. But he was not asked to help with that investigation.

Up to now, Mr Ibbes's public appearances have been confined to the odd glimpse as he waits on the steps of 70 Whitehall for his car looking unassumingly like Mr Rhodes Boyson, the Under Secretary of State at the Department of Education and Science, with his Dickensian, mutton-chop whiskers and ready smile, plus the occasional sighting at Covent Garden where he indulges his passion for opera.

What kind of man is this self-effacing corporate planner who, to the near despair of think tank supporters in Whitehall, has added a new

dimension to the phrase "low-profile" by behaving as if he were that other, slightly unusual permanent secretary, known as "C" who heads a rather different think tank, the Secret Intelligence Service, just across Westminster Bridge?

By all accounts, Mr Ibbes is a pleasant and convivial person to work with. One of his staff described him as "the best listener I have ever met".

There are several differences between him and his predecessor, Sir Kenneth Berrill. Mr Ibbes writes few papers himself, but will intervene in other people's drafts if he thinks they are wrong.

He is well regarded as an adviser on industrial and economic matters by ministers, particularly the Prime Minister, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment. He has made a favourable impression at the Cabinet committees he attends.

One insider who has kept a close watch on the product of the rank under Mr Ibbes said: "On industrial matters it's a matter of 'Call for Robin'. You name the industry and they have been involved in it."

In terms of individual industries, in both the public and private sector, he has been pretty good at trying to get ministers to look rather more at the long term.

The nationalized industries study, which Mr Ibbes is completing at some speed with the assistance of the well-regarded Mr Paul Vaught, seconded to the think tank from BP, is expected to be influential but there are no plans to publish it.

## £15m flight simulator to speed retraining

By Arthur Reed, Air Correspondent

Pilots will learn to fly airliners in a new simulator centre costing £15m which was opened near Gatwick airport yesterday.

Captain P. A. Mackenzie, managing director of American Airlines Training Corporation, which has established the centre, said that by the end of this year pilots transferring from one type of jet airliner to another would be able to do so with "zero flight time training".

By using simulators, an airline could save up to £15,000 on teaching pilots to fly different aircraft.

Two airlines, based at Gatwick, British Caledonian and Laker Airways, have 10 year training agreements with the new centre. Other airlines which are to send pilots there are Finnair, of Finland, and Olympic, of Greece. Qantas, the Australian airline, is also very interested in using the facility.

The new centre has four bays, one with a Boeing 747 simulator, one with a McDonnell Douglas DC 10 simulator, one to be fitted with a Boeing 737 simulator, and one at present vacant.

The simulators are replicas of airliner flight decks which can reproduce, through hydraulic jacks, the movements of an aircraft. The aircrew under training can see through the cockpit windows sky and landscape images generated by a computer.

## Government not to fight clamp on jury room

By Marcel Berlins

A decision by the Government not to try to reverse a House of Lords amendment to the Contempt of Court Bill means that the secrets of the juryroom will be almost totally protected from disclosure.

The Bill reaches its last stage today when the Commons debates amendments made to it by the House of Lords. The most significant was one which the Government lost in spite of a stirring speech by Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor.

The amendment, proposed by Lord Hutchinson, QC, goes much further than the Bill's original provisions. It will make it a contempt of court "to obtain, disclose or solicit any particulars of statements made, opinions expressed, arguments advanced, or votes cast, by members of a jury in the course of their deliberations."

The Government's version would have made it a contempt of court to publish juryroom secrets, or obtain the information with a view to publishing it. Even then there would have been an exception if the publication did not identify the case or jurors.

The Lords amendment bans all disclosure whether or not publication is intended and whether or not the case can be identified. Supporters of the amendment pointed out that the Government's version would allow jurors to be questioned by members of the defendant's family for instance, or by researchers.

## British is best for satellite

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

The Ministry of Defence has acted as marriage broker in bringing together two British companies to build a new communications satellite for the Armed Forces.

The companies, British Aerospace and Marconi Space and Defence Systems (MSDS), have until now been rivals for a £100m contract, each teamed up with an American partner.

They were persuaded to come together after an all-British solution after the intervention of Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, and Lord Trenchard, Minister of State for Defence.

Mr Nott said yesterday: "We very much hope that cooperation between the firms will continue in future and that this will enable the United Kingdom to maintain a leading technological capability in space satellites."

The first of two satellites will be put into orbit in 1985, probably via the economical American shuttle. The other will act as a reserve. Defence sources say the first satellite will be the most advanced yet developed and will have a built-in defence against anti-satellite weapons.

The forces' last all-British satellite was SkyNet-2, which was launched in 1974 and still in use during the run-up to the elections in Zimbabwe last year.

The use of SkyNet declined after the ministry decided to use a common Nato facility. Last year the chiefs of staff concluded that they needed an exclusively British system after all, and the BAes/MSDS solution is the answer.

Although all the services will use the satellite, the Royal Navy is most in need of it. Vital forces, like the four submarines which carry Britain's Polaris missiles, will have a back-up system in case of emergency.

The British Aerospace Dynamics Division will make the satellite and will be the prime contractor, and Marconi will design the communications equipment inside.

Space watchers say there is a £500m satellite market to be fought over in the next few years, involving similar systems for Nato and the Third World, and an additional chance of meeting the demands of civil customers.

Meanwhile the Ministry of Defence has still to decide on names for its two next satellites. "Charles" and "Diana" were loyally offered by reporters

## Choir quits after master is dismissed

From Our Correspondent Bradford

The principal choir of Bradford cathedral has resigned as a protest against the dismissal of Mr Keith Rhodes, their organist and choirmaster. He had held the posts for 17 years.

He was dismissed last week by the Provost of Bradford, the Very Rev. Brandon Jackson. He complained to Mr Rhodes of alleged lack of organization and of leniency.

There were three choirs and an orchestra at the cathedral. All the members of the Coates Choir, which has broadcast several times, made two recordings and toured abroad, have resigned.

Mr John Eastwood, a bass singer in the Coates Choir, said yesterday: "Mr Rhodes has established a tradition of fine choral music at the cathedral and had done his best to cooperate with the provost."

Mr Eastwood said the provost seemed to prefer the congregation to do most of the singing in the cathedral. He said: "It is a clash of personalities and Mr Rhodes is prepared to stick up for what he thinks is best."

There are 24 boys and eight men in the Coates Choir.

Mr Rhodes, of Briarwood Grove, Bradford, declined to comment in detail about his dismissal. He said: "They are domestic matters."

## PROBATION FOR THE 'BOY' GIRL

A girl aged 17 who spent a night at an all-male detention centre after fooling police, lawyers and a court into thinking she was a boy was placed on probation for two years yesterday.

She appeared at Bradford Crown Court last Friday, under the name Sammy Maddocks, and pleaded guilty to five charges of burglary. Judge Bennett sentenced her to three months at a detention centre and it was only when she reached there that a medical examination revealed that she was a girl. She returned to court yesterday to receive a new sentence.

Mr Andrew Woolman, who appeared for the Crown at yesterday's hearing, said that prosecution officers had had difficulty tracing the girl before her trial, and had only seen her the night before the hearing, without her parents.

## Former top civil servant wins libel damages

Mr Alan Blackshaw, the author and former top civil servant, received a public apology yesterday from a newspaper which named him in reports of an alleged "scandal" over North Sea oil grants.

Mr Blackshaw also accepted substantial undisclosed damages and legal costs in settlement of his High Court libel action against the Daily Mail and Mr Anthony Bevins, the political correspondent.

Mr Blackshaw's counsel, Mr David Eady, told Mr Justice Russell in London that the Daily Mail's allegations of a "£52m scandal" related to evidence given to the Public Accounts Committee about a grants scheme administered by the Department of Energy.

The scheme was to assist North Sea oil development companies who bought British gas.

Sir Jack Rampton, the department's Permanent Under-Secretary, had given evidence that a number of civil servants, including an under-secretary, had been reprimanded over breaches of the time-limits guidelines for payment of grants to oil companies.

In fact, counsel said, the breaches occurred without the

knowledge of senior officers in the department, including Mr Blackshaw, who was Director General of the Offshore Supplies Office in Glasgow from January, 1977, to September, 1978.

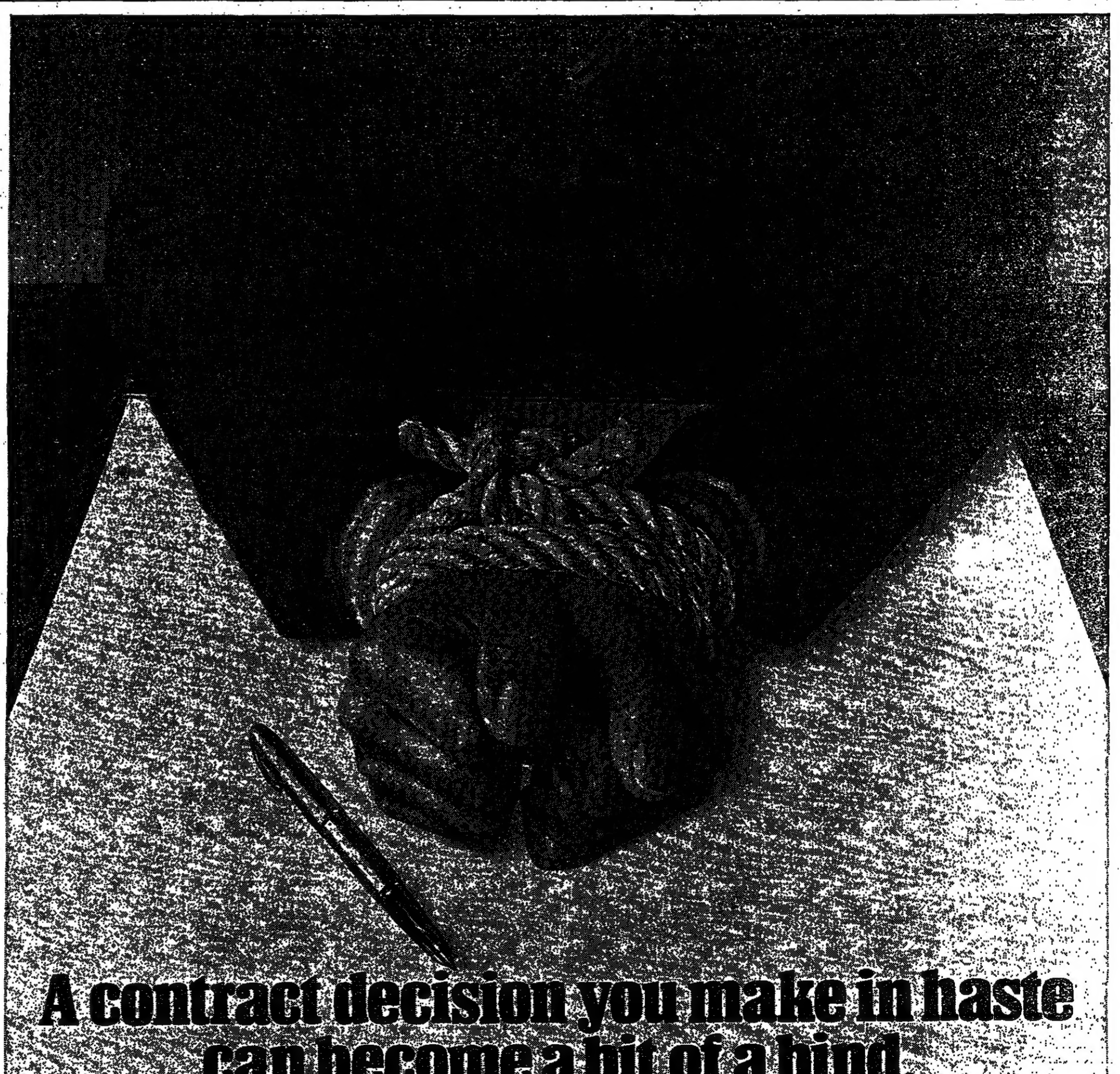
Sir Jack Rampton subsequently apologized for his error in stating that an under-secretary in Glasgow had been reprimanded.

It had since been publicly acknowledged that no public money was lost.

Unfortunately, the article in the Daily Mail gave the impression that Mr Blackshaw's transfer from the Offshore Supplies Division to the Coal Division was in some way linked with the loss of large sums of public money.

As soon as the error in Sir Jack Rampton's evidence was made public, the newspaper published a front page article by Mr Bevins making clear that Mr Blackshaw was innocent of any blame.

February Mr Blackshaw, aged 47, of Friarsbrac House, Lillingthorpe, West Lothian, was awarded £45,000 damages by a libel jury against The Daily Telegraph over similar allegations.



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# Japan faces trade war over sperm whale hunt curb

From Nicholas Timmins, Brighton

The International Whaling Commission was heading yesterday towards a crisis over a worldwide ban on hunting sperm whales that could lead to Japanese fishing fleets being kept out of United States waters and an embargo on lucrative Japanese fish exports there.

Such a step would come at a time when Japan and the United States are involved in delicate negotiations over Japanese exports of cars, electronics and other goods.

The crisis arose after the commission's technical committee passed by 17 votes to five, with five abstentions, a proposal, supported by the United Kingdom, which would halt the commercial hunting of sperm whales.

After the vote Mr Kunio Yonizawa, the Japanese commissioner, said that if the proposal was passed at the commission's plenary session later this week he would recommend to his Government that Japan exercise its right to object to the decision and carry on its sperm whale hunt.

The statement, however, brought replies from two United States Congressmen attending the commission's meeting in Brighton, who said that they would press for United States legislation limiting the access of Japanese fishing fleets to United States waters to be brought into effect.

They would also press for the implementation of the Pelly amendment, which empowers the United States to embargo fishery exports from any country whose whaling operations interfere with international conservation programmes.

Yesterday both the Japanese and conservationist countries were involved in intensive lobbying of the five countries who abstained in the technical committee vote.

The latter were trying to ensure that the vote survives intact in the plenary session. The former were trying to persuade one of the five countries, Spain, Chile, Norway, China and Brazil, to vote against the proposal, which needs a three-quarters majority to be passed.

The commission is also to examine the existing quotas set for sperm whales before it votes on the proposal to set zero quotas for all sperm whale stock and therefore to halt the sperm whale hunt.

The Japanese believe they can demonstrate that their take of sperm whales in the North Pacific can continue safely, but the scientific committee was unable to agree a quota for this year.

Mr Yonizawa said yesterday: "There are no scientific grounds to justify a ban on hunting these whales. There are 210,000 sperm whales in our region, all over 30 feet, and we take only 890. Such a catch would not put the population at risk in any way."

The Japanese believe that the scientific evidence showed that their catch is well within the safety range, all of which he said, it would be for his Government to decide whether to exercise its right under the IWC's constitution to lodge an objection within 90 days, which would allow the hunt to continue.

## Tenerife air crash claims being settled

By Arthur Reed  
Air Correspondent

Dan-Air, the British independent airline whose Boeing 722 airliner crashed into a mountain in Tenerife in April last year, has so far settled 17 claims for compensation from relatives of the 146 people on board who died.

The airline said yesterday that it was negotiating settlement of a number of others. "Where claims have been received in respect of passengers in this accident, we have indicated through our solicitors that we are prepared on a no prejudice basis to settle any claims, subject to the provisions and limitations of the amended Warsaw Convention."

Britain and practically every foreign state subscribe to the rules of the Warsaw Convention, drawn up by the International Civil Aviation Organisation, the United Nations aviation body, and so named because it was completed in the Polish city.

The convention was amended by the Hague protocol of 1955 and today provides for an upper limit of about £5,600 for individual compensation, a small sum by today's standards.

For that reason, some governments write higher sums of compensation into the operating licences of their airlines. The figure demanded by British airlines by the Civil Aviation Authority and the Department of Trade is £55,000.

At the time of the Dan-Air accident the upper limit for international flights was £30,000. The amount of compensation for the families of accident victims is generally negotiated between solicitors representing them and the airline insurers.

It will depend on a number of factors, including the potential earning capacity of a victim. In the case of dispute the courts are asked to adjudicate.

Because governments write their own limits, rates for compensation after air accidents vary widely around the world. In a few cases they are as high as the British figure, but most countries still apply the £5,600 limit.

It is open to dependents to sue for reckless misconduct in an effort to obtain higher compensation, but such actions can be expensive in legal fees, with no certainty of success.

Some countries have no fixed compensation rates for internal flights. The United States is among them, which is why after domestic air accidents there, suits claiming millions of dollars are filed in individual cases against airlines and aircraft manufacturers.



Sign of the times: Mrs Vi Lee, pub landlady, dusts her contribution for July 29, which is also her own birthday.

## How the Queen's purse will suffer

By Robin Young

It is doubtful if even the Queen knows precisely how large a hole this royal wedding next Wednesday will make in her privy purse, which will bear much of the expense. The total costs for all parties must exceed £500,000.

The Department of the Environment is spending £50,000 on decorating the ceremonial route down the Mall and on floral decorations outside St Paul's Cathedral.

The department's contribution also includes 697 ft of red carpet to go down the cathedral aisle and into the side chapel where the royal couple will sign the register.

The City of London has allowed £13,000 for crowd barriers and for 60 loudspeakers to relay the service to the crowds lining the route within the city boundaries.

The expense will be recouped, however, from fees charged to cameramen and film crews using the City's Juxon House, which overlooks the steps of St Paul's.

The City of Westminster is budgeting £30,000 for decorations, sending its portion of the route, cleaning up afterwards and paying wages of staff on duty.

The cost of security is the largest item in the bill. Up to 4,000 policemen will be on duty. If the royal family were paying the special duty rate charged to football clubs and so on, of £9.50 an hour, the bill would be £316,800, but royal weddings are normal duties to policemen.

so the bill, not precisely quantifiable, will be considerably less.

The Queen's personal expenditure included about £800 for the wedding cake, £2,000 on flowers, the music and fanfares at the private reception at Buckingham Palace, and as much as £10,000 for the wedding cake.

The wedding party's clothes, including bridesmaids' dresses and pageboys' costumes, would account for another £5,000.

The Prince of Wales will be paying for posies for the bridesmaids, buttonholes for his brothers and ushers, and about £1,000 for the ring. There are also likely to be gifts for the five bridesmaids and two pageboys at about £100 each.

There will be 2,228 officers and Servicemen lining the procession routes. If their pay is added into the account the bill would be £45,000. As with the police, though, most would be paid the same rate in any case, so the bill really involves transporting and feeding them for the day.

The cost of a honeymoon on the royal yacht Britannia is also difficult to quantify, but as the vessel's running costs are £2.7m a year, £100,000 seems a reasonable estimate for the fortnight.

None of that is of great concern to Mr William Hamilton, Labour MP for Fife Central, who is well known for his criticism of royal expenses. "The overtime for police, the



### The royal wedding

The unarmed officers, who form most of BA's security team, will check airport arrangements at about 200 airports but will concentrate on countries sending heads of state to the wedding.

They include EEC countries and members of Nato and the Commonwealth. Mrs Margaret Thatcher will arrive tomorrow and there will be a steady stream of VIPs arriving over the weekend.

The security men who will line up local Special Branch officers have been supplied with a list of known or suspected terrorists.

A BA spokesman said: "If Jim Smith, whom we suspect of being involved in terrorist attacks, suddenly disappears from his home in Kent, then we would want to know why."

"We have altered our staff around the world to have extra vigilance at this time. We are aware that any act of publicity because of the wedding."

Additional security measures will include vetting all passengers flying to London from abroad and a check of baggage. Although two foreign airlines said they had had no apparent changes in security, it is likely that most airlines will maintain tight measures for the gathering of dozens of heads of state and with the eyes of the world focused on London.

## Forum plan on abuse of alcohol

By Our Health Services Correspondent

People in the drinks industry and those concerned with the misuse of alcohol should join together and form a forum to curb abuse, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, said yesterday.

A drunk was not a good advertisement for the product, so the industry was to stamp out abuse, he told the annual meeting in London of the National Council on Alcoholism.

The industry was already paying for the cost of development director of the Alcohol Education Centre and part of the research fund of the Medical Council of Alcoholism. Its concern had been demonstrated, Mr Jenkin said.

"What we now need is agreement by all concerned to carry these initiatives forward and to build on the common ground. To continue as if there were open warfare no longer makes sense."

One idea was to establish a national alcohol affairs commission. That has been proposed by the National Council of Women and supported by the Magistrates' Association. But it was government policy to reduce the number of public bodies.

He preferred the idea of a body, perhaps called The Alcohol Forum, whose initiative and momentum would come from the industry and those concerned with the dangers of alcoholism, rather than the Government.

Mr Jenkin said that between 15 and 30 per cent of men admitted to general medical, surgical and casualty departments in hospitals had serious drinking problems.

## £35m tank deal nears signing

By Henry Stanhope  
Defence Correspondent

Britain expects to complete a deal to sell 35 Chieftain tanks to Oman, on the Gulf, before the end of this year. Unofficial estimates say that the contract should be worth about £35m.

Twelve Chieftains are about to be leased to Sultan Qaboos, Oman's young ruler, in time for a show of strength on the country's national day next November.

Ministry of Defence sources in London yesterday refused to confirm any negotiations between the British Government and the Omani. Unofficial reports suggest that the deal is more or less complete.

The Sultan, who overthrew his father in a bloodless coup more than a decade ago, originally asked Britain for a number of Chieftains in time for last year's national day. But they could not be delivered in time, so he was forced to go to the Americans instead for a number of M-60s. His close tie with Britain has eventually led him towards the Chieftain as his permanent solution.

Britain will have to raise its own War Maintenance Reserve for the 35 tanks required by the Sultan to lay the foundations of a new Omani armoured corps. Sources say the effect on the reserve will not be serious and can easily be made good, perhaps when the new Challenger tank comes into service with the British Army of the Rhine.

British ties with Oman have been close throughout Sultan Qaboos's rule, and several hundred British officers and NCOs, including members of the Special Air Service Regiment, led his forces in their 10-year war against incursions from South Yemen.

A number of British personnel, either retired soldiers on contract or serving members of Britain's forces on secondment, are still there.

Oman's position overlooking the Strait of Hormuz and the important oil routes to the West give it a unique strategic value.

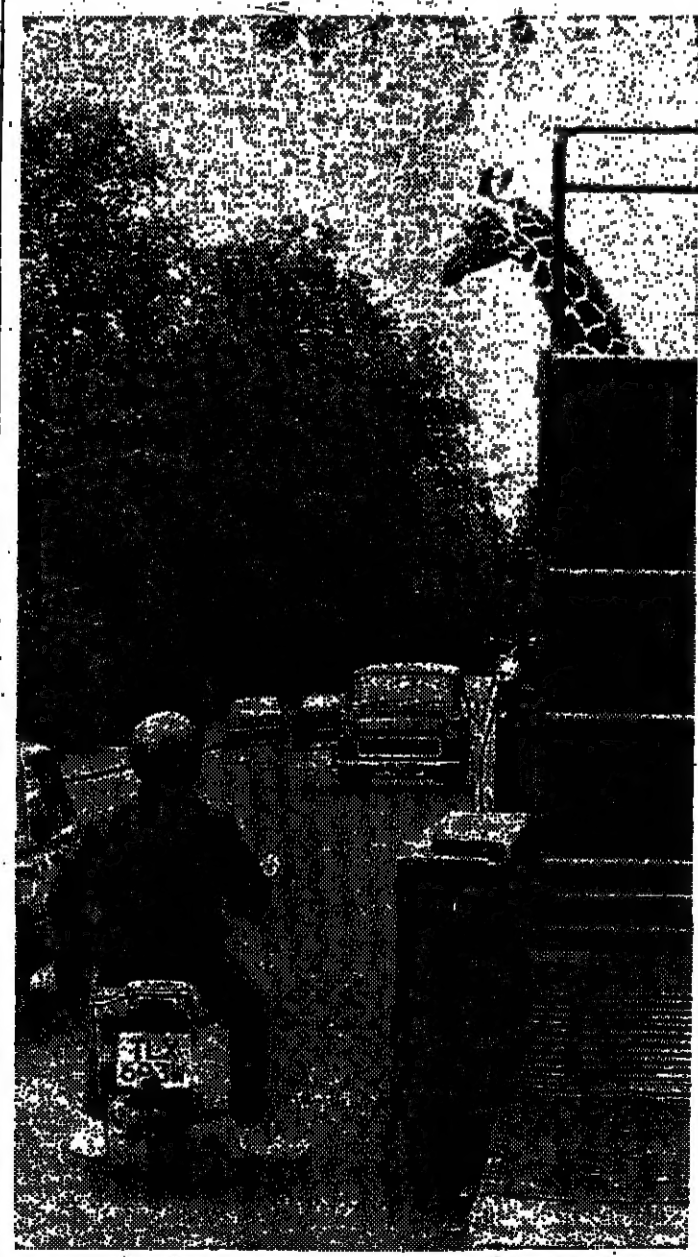
with the persuasion of my revolver I captured all 45. I suppose they were more surprised than me when they came out."

Also there was Mr Bob Tate, aged 87, of Sunderland, who was one of the drivers of the first batch of tanks used in the war. They were first used at 4.45 pm on September 15, 1916, on the Somme. What I remember about them was that they were so heavy to drive," he said.

The veteran spent the afternoon poring over documents, handling rifles, uniforms, shells, grenades and other items used in the war.

"The archives are a personal experience of all aspects of the war, from the conscientious objector to the Royal Flying Corps bombing pilot," Mr Little said. "The collection is a slice of our heritage."

The archives are housed in the polytechnic's St Mary's building and are used by researchers and authors throughout the world.



Moving house: Monty, London Zoo's 11ft two-year-old giraffe, leaving Regent's Park yesterday for a new life at Whipsnade.

## IN BRIEF

**Ton of cannabis seized in 10 raids**  
Customs inspectors and police have seized more than a ton of cannabis resin valued at £125,000. They raided 10 houses in London, Surrey and Hampshire.

Ten people were being questioned by Customs yesterday. A spokesman said that investigations had been made for 14 months and were continuing.

**Trawler taken**  
Anthony Huggan, of Avon Green, Fleetwood, Lancashire, was ordered yesterday to pay a crawler owner £925 compensation after being found guilty of taking the 301-ton vessel, Glen Carron, without consent.

**Heavy reading**  
Lincolnshire County Council is to streamline its administration after a check disclosed that a set of committee documents for a year was almost three feet high and weighed more than half a hundredweight. The number of committees is to be cut from 54 to 29.

**Pilgrim bell**  
The American descendants of one of the Pilgrim Fathers, John Howland, have paid for a new bell which was hung yesterday in the parish church in Fenstanton, Cambridgeshire, where he was born. The bell, cast at the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, London, cost nearly £3,000.

**Farm mishap**  
Mrs Hilary Etheridge, aged 31, was caught up in a cord trailing from a farm baler in Thaxted, Essex, yesterday and dragged 30 feet along the ground. Mrs Etheridge, of Dumow Road, Bishop's Cleeve, Herefordshire, was said to be "fairly comfortable" in hospital last night.

**Train death**  
Mr John Wood, aged 53, of Charles Close, Newmarket, was killed yesterday when he was struck by a train at Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk. He had been missing from the psychiatric unit at West Suffolk Hospital, Bury St Edmunds.

**Conductor taken ill**  
Rafael Kubelick, who was to have conducted the European Community Youth Orchestra at the Albert Hall, in London, on Sunday, has been taken ill and his place will be filled by Claudio Abbado, the orchestra's musical director.

**Children's games**  
The world's international disabled children's games will take place at Gateshead stadium, near Newcastle upon Tyne, between August 5 and 9. Children from 15 countries will compete. The National Westminster Bank has given £40,000 towards the costs.

## 1,000 firms asked to give disabled a better chance

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

On the eve of the Manpower Services Commission report recommending abolition of the quota for disabled workers, both sides of industry and the Government are stepping up action to persuade more employers to take on disabled staff.

At a conference convened by the Trades Union Congress in London yesterday more than 200 delegates from trade unions and disability organisations were told that a booklet being prepared to help shop stewards to promote better employment opportunities for disabled people.

Today the top 1,000 companies in Britain will be urged in a joint letter from Government and industry to have boardroom discussions on how they can contribute more to the independence and integration of the disabled.

The signatories are: Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment; Sir Terence Beckett, director-general of the Confederation of British Industry; Sir Richard O'Brien, chairman of the MSC; and Lord Snowdon, president of the International Year of Disabled People, England.

The letter includes a discussion brief asking, inter alia, whether companies are fulfilling the quota which requires them to employ 3 per cent disabled workers if their workforce exceeds 19.

They are also asked to discuss four main points from the brief: a more positive approach to give disabled people the same chance as able-bodied people in employment; a review of products and services to make them usable by physically handicapped people; a drive to ensure that disabled employees and customers can have better access to offices, factories and showrooms; and more use of existing facilities, including grants of up to £5,000 to adapt premises, machinery and equipment.

The TUC is to draw up a policy statement based on yesterday's conference discussions and a background paper outlining public areas of action. Its booklet on promoting equality of job opportunities for disabled people is being prepared in conjunction with the MSC.

The TUC is also to extend its monitoring of public spending cuts to focus on local authority services for the disabled. A special edition of the TUC cuts checklist papers is intended to publicise the effects of government policies on services for the handicapped.

**Dossing jail law stays**  
By Tony Samstag  
The Government has decided to retain the option of prison sentences for persons convicted of begging or sleeping rough. The decision was published yesterday as a reply to the third report from the Home Affairs Committee on Vagrancy Offences.

That report, published in May, attracted strong bipartisan criticism for recommending no changes in the 1824 law on dossing and begging, although it did recommend that the offences cease to be imprisonable.

In what amounted to a minority report, Mr Robert Kilroy Gill, Labour MP for Ormskirk, had proposed repeal of the two offences, and suggested that a third offence of being found in an empty house be replaced by specific amendments to the Theft Act. He was supported by three out of his four Labour colleagues on the committee.

In its reply the Government says it is "greatly concerned to ensure that the use of imprisonment generally is kept to a minimum, but believes that, in relation to the two offences in question, removal of the power to imprison would be of very limited beneficial effect."

The maximum penalty for begging is one month in prison or a £200 fine and for sleeping rough three months, or a £200 fine.

## Science report

**Flycatcher can get away with bigamy**  
By the Staff of "Nature"  
Pied flycatchers are bigamous, a group of Swedish ornithologists has discovered. The female pied flycatcher keeps herself and her spring secure by nesting in a hole in a tree—but the result is that her mate has no need to defend a territory, and is free to leave her behind in the hole and go off in search of other females.

Recent study around Uppsala, Sweden, shows that more than a quarter of the male pied flycatchers succeed in keeping one mate in a hole in one part of the wood and a second in another hole a safe distance away.

Most species of bird are monogamous, so exceptions are of great interest to biologists attempting to explain the evolution of social systems.

The case of the pied flycatcher (*Ficedula hypoleuca*) is particularly puzzling because no sooner has the bigamous male deceived a second female and installed her in a hole than he almost totally abandons her.

He fetches and carries food for his first mate and rarely visits the second mate who has to feed herself as well as raise the young.

Why the second female tolerate such a situation when, on finding herself abandoned, she could give up her nest hole and go off to look for a new monogamous mate is not clear. Is there actually some hidden benefit to being a second mate?

There are two ways in which females might gain some advantage—in evolutionary terms—by mating with a bigamous male. Bigamous males may actually be "super-males", of such high quality that even being their second mate is preferable, in terms of quality nest site, to being the mate of an ordinary male.

However, the Swedish researchers showed that although bigamous males are bigger and older than monogamous males, they provide no direct benefit to the second female. She lays fewer eggs and her young are more likely to die of starvation than those of females paired with a monogamous male.

A second possibility is that second females receive a much more indirect benefit. Her own sons might inherit their father's propensity to bigamy and in turn mate with more than one female. The second female's lack of offspring will then be compensated for by a greater number of offspring in later generations, so that she eventually does have more descendants than a female mated to a monogamous male.

A simple calculation shows, however, that any advantage the female gains by mating with a bigamous male could only outweigh the disadvantage of producing few offspring if virtually every one of her sons goes on to be a successful bigamist. That is clearly impossible, because there are not enough females for every bird to practise bigamy.

The explanation for the second female's fidelity to her bigamous mate seems instead to lie in the abhorrence of the Swedish summer. The number of offspring left behind by females who begin laying eggs on different dates, and found that each day's delay drastically reduced the chances of successful reproduction.

The second female simply has no choice once she has been deceived. If she abandons her eggs and searches for another male the season will be too advanced for her and her new partner to rear the young, and she will be even worse off than if she stayed with her original bigamist. The pressure to mate as quickly as possible as soon as the season opens is a disadvantage usual in birds and further increases the bigamist's chances of deceiving a second mate about his true status.

The group of researchers may well have discovered a unique set of circumstances in which the female bird can be successfully deceived. They are now going to go on and look at other Swedish birds that nest in holes to see if their males succeed in getting away with bigamy too.

Source: *The American Naturalist*, vol 117, p 738 (1981). © Nature-Times News Service 1981.

**BURGLAR IS CLEARED OF RAPE**  
A man who had sexual intercourse with a girl student after breaking into a flat armed with a length of copper piping was jailed for three years at Nottingham Crown Court yesterday.

Neil Clarke, aged 24, an unemployed miner, of Thorby Road, Mansfield, was convicted of aggravated burglary and possessing an offensive weapon.

He was acquitted of rape but Mr Justice Peter Pain ruled that his identity could be published in the public interest.

The girl, aged 17, said she submitted to sex after Clarke threatened to break her boyfriend's knee caps.

مكتبة الأصل



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# Commonwealth changes venue in rugby protest

By David Spanier, Diplomatic Correspondent

Britain gave reluctant support yesterday to the Commonwealth Finance Ministers meeting from New Zealand to the Bahamas next September in protest against the South African rugby tour of New Zealand.

But the British made it clear yesterday that they regretted the decision to change the venue, which was not felt to be justified.

The decision was confirmed—as expected—at the meeting of the Commonwealth Southern Africa Committee, held in London. The committee noted with regret that the Springboks had arrived in New Zealand to begin their tour and the strong feelings that this had aroused.

The committee agreed that the venue of the finance ministers' meeting should be changed, and accepted the offer of the Bahamas Government to host the meeting in Nassau.

Mr Leslie Gandar, the New Zealand representative at the High Commission, dissented from yesterday's decision. He said it was damaging to the most important tradition of the Commonwealth to overrule the strongly held views of a country whose record on human rights was second to none.

New Zealand remained opposed to apartheid and the

meeting was missing its target in South Africa by half the globe, he said.

The British Government also made it clear that it accepted the consensus view reluctantly. A statement by the Foreign Office said that in the interests of Commonwealth harmony, Britain had accepted the overwhelming consensus of the meeting that the venue of the finance ministers' meeting should be changed.

The row looks like surfacing again more seriously at the coming Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Melbourne at the end of September. Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, will be under strong pressure from African and Caribbean countries to bar sporting contacts with South Africa.

Wellington's Mr Robert Muldoon, the New Zealand Prime Minister, said last night he would boycott the Commonwealth finance ministers meeting now that it had been moved from Auckland to the Bahamas (Reuters reports).

He said: "The result of the decision in London is that there is now a new element in the Commonwealth association. The decision disappoints me because this kind of action has come into the Commonwealth for the first time."

## Wave of arrests before first Springboks match

Gisborne, New Zealand, Wednesday morning—Police arrested 38 demonstrators early today outside a hotel where the South African Springboks rugby team was staying on the eve of its opening match in New Zealand.

A senior police spokesman said the arrests had been made without violence and that 27 men and 11 women were being detained for causing a breach of the peace.

The demonstrators were all members of the Hail All Racial Tourists group, one of the leading organisations opposing the tour in protest against apartheid in South Africa.

The arrests nearly doubled the number of anti-tour demonstrators who have been picked up since the Springboks landed at Auckland on Sunday. Seventy-two people have been detained at demonstrations in Gisborne and Auckland, but many of them have been released without being charged.

□ The 15,000 fans expected to

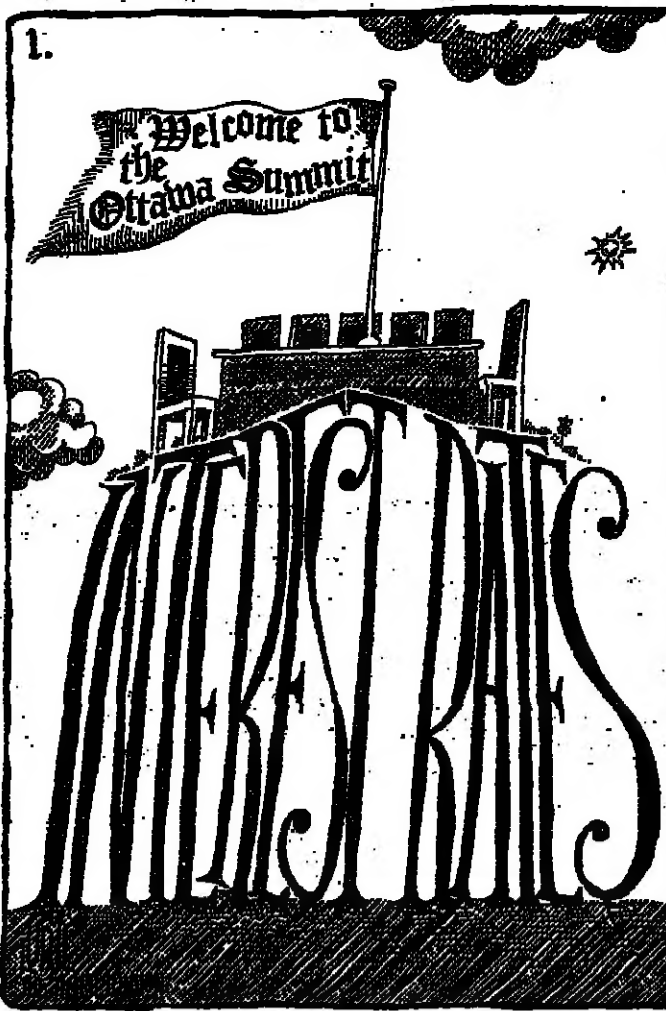
attend the opening match of the tour in Gisborne today have been warned that they may be bombed by tear gas from a helicopter (Our Correspondent writes).

Gisborne police issued the warning after receiving a statement that demonstrators were intending to drop gas on the players and spectators from an unmarked helicopter.

The level of protest in Gisborne was stepped up yesterday when four people in a Land-Rover crashed through the barriers of the match venue at Rugby Park and scattered broken glass across the playing area.

Until then it had been a quiet day in Gisborne with the Springboks undergoing their final training run under the usual police guard.

There is no doubt that the first game of the tour will be played in front of the largest police force ever assembled for crowd control at a New Zealand sports match.



## BOMB IN LAUSANNE STORE

From Ian McGregor, Geneva, July 21

Fifteen people were taken to hospital in Lausanne today after a bomb exploded in the ladies' section of a department store—the third such incident in Switzerland in as many days. Responsibility was claimed by the June 6 Organisation, believed to be an underground Armenian group.

Most of the injured sustained leg wounds caused by flying debris. Their condition is said to be "generally satisfactory." Other persons were treated at doctors' surgeries.

The management also received an anonymous phone call indicating that other bombs might be hidden elsewhere in the building, which was searched by a police anti-bomb squad brought from Zurich by helicopter. Damage was described as considerable.

The explosion yesterday was at Kloten airport, Zurich, where five persons sustained minor injuries and damage was put at \$75,000.

In telephone calls to the Geneva office of Agence France Presse, the June 6 Organisation said all three explosions were its work. A young Armenian was arrested on June 9 after the murder of a member of the Turkish consulate staff here.

## Agca refuses to appear in court

From Peter Nichols, Rome, July 21

Mehmet Ali Agca, the Turk accused of attempting to murder the Pope, refused to appear in court today and missed hearing himself described by the public prosecutor as a seeker after the role of the negative hero, "drawing a sinister glory from the greatness of his victim."

Dr Nicola Amato, the public prosecutor, asked for life imprisonment. This was the second day of the trial and Mr Agca's gesture not to attend proceedings was consistent with his refusal yesterday to accept the court's jurisdiction.

He argued that he was not an Italian and had committed the offence on Vatican territory and should therefore be tried by the Vatican, not by the Italians. He said that he would begin a hunger strike on December 20 if his demands had not been met by then.

The prosecutor spoke of the "shocking obscenity" of the crime, confessing that even he did not feel the same man after the attempt on the Pope's life on May 13.

"Terrorism has arrived in St Peter's," he said, "in the cathedral of Catholicism and this is a fact which must make one think." In a brief sketch of the accused, he said that at the age of 17 (Mr Agca is now 23) he was already a terrorist, trained in the use of firearms

In February, 1979, he killed the editor of the Turkish newspaper Milliyet for which he was arrested and sentenced to death. He escaped from the military prison of Istanbul in November 1979 with "a lot of strange complicity." Before leaving the country he killed a young man of 19.

Confirmation of his lust for blood and violence, the prosecutor said, came from the projects to kill leading figures in international political life, such as the Queen of England, Mme Simone Veil, President of the European Parliament, and Mr Dom Mintoff, the Maltese Prime Minister.

Mr Amato said that these projects had been confirmed by police inquiries.

He said he saw the attack on the Pope as deriving from an Oedipus complex—a symbolic parricide, through which, by killing the father, one tries to cancel one's own past which is empty. There is a sinister tendency towards the need to be a protagonist, a narcissistic urge which does not stop for anything or anybody.

Mr Amato wanted to become a personality in history, the negative hero. He appeared a quiet man, cold, indifferent, self-controlled. He was convinced after his bloody act, that the Pope was dead or would die.

Even in front of his judges he did not conceal his true nature, saying in fact: "I am an international terrorist and I have had contacts with the terrorists of half of Europe and the Middle East."

The prosecutor was emotional rather than juridical. This is partly in Dr Amato's somewhat exuberant character but at the same time he was basing his case on the enormity of an attack on the Pope's life.

Indirectly he was answering Mr Agca's own strictly juridical plea that he had attacked a foreign head of state outside Italy and so the court did not have competence to try the case.

The prosecutor's apostrophising of the Pope was on equally passionate lines.

"Like Gandhi, like John Fitzgerald, like Robert Kennedy, like Martin Luther King, like Aldo Moro, like Paul VI—you are a man of peace, of hope and of life, paladin of justice, the ideal knight, you belong to the whole world and to all men, you belong to history and to the expectations of the entire humanity, you struggle for universal and eternal truth."

If this is what is at stake at the trial, the implication goes, what do a few juridical doubts matter?

## Police swoop again on Cape shanty dwellers

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg, July 21

For the fourth day in less than a week South African police today smashed the flimsy shelters of corrugated iron, wood, plastic sheeting erected by homeless blacks evicted from Langa township outside Cape Town, and made dozens of arrests.

Police and officials of the Western Cape Administration Board not actually involved in the evictions, demolished, watched as blacks, many of them women with babies, were herded into police vans and driven off.

Raided by police and administration board officials on blacks who have no official passes to live in the Cape Town area, began last week nearly 1,000 arrests were made. The victims were mainly the wives and children of men from Transkei. Many of the men are legally in Cape Town, and the crackdown is aimed at dependants who have illegally joined them.

The Western Cape is officially designated a Coloured (mixed race) labour preference area. No additional black housing has been built for a decade in the expectation of a decade of work-seekers from the black

homelands would be reversed. The opposite, in fact, has happened, and the accommodation problem in the Langa, Nyanga and Gugulethu townships outside Cape Town is acute.

Since police and officials began raids last week on "illegal" squatters in Nyanga township, scores of blacks have moved into the adjoining Langa township and thrown up temporary shacks with whatever materials they can find to shelter from bitter midwinter weather.

As fast as they have built their shelters the police and officials have torn them down.

Meanwhile, the row continues over racialist remarks attributed to two magistrates appointed to handle some of the hundreds of cases of people arrested and charged with being illegally in the area.

Mr Jasper Fourie, normally a senior prosecutor who was appointed a temporary magistrate in Langa township, is reported to have told one woman charged with illegal residence: "I suppose you sleep with a different man every night."

## Six killed in terror feud

Paris, July 21

M. Jacques Massie, aged 41, a police inspector, four members of his family and a friend, who disappeared in mysterious circumstances on Sunday from a villa near Aubagne in the Marseilles area, appear to have all been victims of a political mass murder, according to police sources.

The crime was carried out by a group of five in a particularly gruesome manner, with knives and iron bars. M. Massie had his throat cut and another person was strangled.

A man detained for questioning is reported to have confessed to his part in it and given the police details of how it happened. He was identified as a teacher, born in Buenos Aires and resident in Marseilles.

The crime seems to be a settlement of old scores between rival members of the notorious Service d'Action Civique (SAC), a strong-arm group set up in 1958 to support the action of General de Gaulle.

Its mission was to thwart the activities of both the Algerian National Front and the Secret Army Organisation, OAS. In the early 1960s it was a force some 12,000 strong, well armed, and ready to carry out any tough job that was required.

In 1969 President Pompidou ordered a thorough purge of the SAC, and 6,000 of its members were expelled. But its unsavoury

## JAILHOUSE ROCK

From Our Own Correspondent, Rome, July 21

Dr Asolfo di Amato, an Orvieto judge, has told the police to arrest people who wear earphones while they are driving. He prescribes a month's imprisonment and a fine of between 15,000 and 50,000 lire (£5.50 to £22) for the offence.

He claims that the popular habit of listening to taped music through earphones deflects concentration and gives a false sense of security to the driver.

## FOUND ALIVE

Olelo—Two West Germans who parachuted from the 5,600ft Mount Trolley were found alive—one clinging to a ledge, the other in a crevasse. They had minor injuries.

## France bars boycott clauses in contracts

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, July 21

The Socialist Government's determination to bring French policy in tune with principle, both in home and foreign affairs, has already involved it in contradictions and complications over such matters as arms sales, the extradition of terrorists, and the application of the amnesty to press offences. It has just taken another step in that direction by a ministerial circular cancelling all exemptions to the anti-boycott law of 1977, which forbade discriminatory clauses against Israel in commercial agreements signed with the Arab countries.

The law was at the time voted unanimously by Parliament. It was designed to bring French legislation in tune with international practice, and in particular with the United Nations convention of 1966 on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination, and with the practice of the European Community.

But in response to the fears expressed by French business circles at the time that the anti-boycott law would prove damaging to trade with the Arab countries, M Raymond Barre, who was then Prime Minister, issued a directive exempting from the scope of the anti-boycott law contracts which French firms signed with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and developing countries which included such discriminatory clauses.

François Mitterrand when he was a candidate for the presidency, undertook to abolish this exemption, but M Michel Jobert, the Minister for overseas trade, about a month ago attempted by a subtle distinction between the boycott of a state, which was a fact, and the boycott of a racial or religious group, to limit the scope of the undertaking and its repercussions on business with the Arab countries.

He seems to have been overruled as the circular just published repeals the Government's desire to brand as intolerable "racialist practices in our society."

It has, however, left itself a loophole. The circular stipulates that the penalties provided for by the law can be suspended when the discrimination involved arises from official directives concerning the application of the Government's international commitments.

In other words, it reserves the right to apply the law on a case-by-case basis. The representative Council of Jewish Institutions in France has, however, expressed satisfaction with the abolition of the previous Government's directive, which, it claimed, emptied the anti-boycott law of all content. The Foreign Ministry last night stated the French Government's position on the possible reconstruction of the Tamuz nuclear research centre in Iraq. President Saddam Hussein of Iraq at a press conference on Sunday insisted that France should adopt a clearer and less cautious approach, but made it clear, however, that the subject had not yet been raised officially.

The Foreign Ministry said that France defended the right of access to nuclear technology of developing countries, and was ready to assist them in the matter, provided it received the necessary guarantees of the peaceful uses of this technology in order to guard against the risks of proliferation.

## Warning to Peronists

From Andrew McLeod, Buenos Aires, July 21

The Argentine Government said last night that it would not tolerate a general strike called by the General Confederation of Labour (CGT) for tomorrow.

In a statement, the Interior Ministry said the strike would violate the National Security Law and strike instigators could face prison sentences of between three and 10 years.

The strike was called by the Peronist-dominated CGT to protest at low wages and soaring unemployment. If it takes place it will be the first major show of strength by trade unions since the armed forces toppled the government of President Maria Estela Peron in March, 1976. But today, leaders of various transport unions, they would not back the strike.

The Government said it would take all necessary measures to "ensure domestic peace, guarantee the freedom to work and provide security for transport systems."

## CORRECTION

The caption on yesterday's Lurie cartoon, depicting President Reagan and Mr Menachem Begin, was inadvertently left out of the first edition. It read: "Mind signing the release for my new planes?"

## Rasputin film fascinates Moscow

From Michael Baynon, Moscow, July 21

A powerful and controversial film about the monk Rasputin, whose sinister role in the fall of the Russian monarchy has long fascinated Russians and Westerners alike, was shown for the first time to a Moscow audience last night. The film had been lying on the censors' shelf for eight years while the authorities argued over it.

The film, *Agony*, breaks all Soviet traditions in dealing with the most sensitive period of Russian history, and news of its release has already caused a sensation in Moscow. A huge crowd besieged the cinema where it was shown, and, on the closing day of the otherwise very dull Moscow film festival.

Not only are the acting and photography outstanding, but the film includes remarkable footage from Soviet archives showing the dying days of the tsarist regime: wounded soldiers being fitted with artificial limbs, bishops blessing the troops before battle, the elegance and the poverty in St Petersburg.

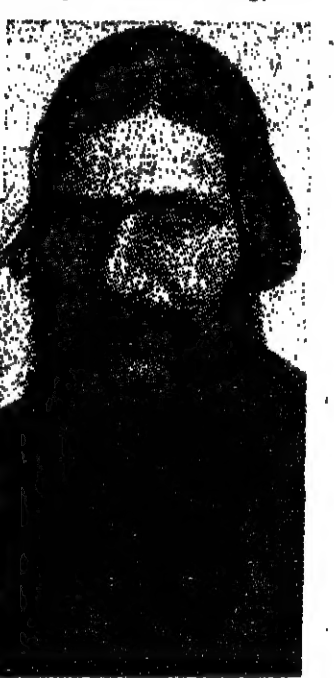
For the first time the turbulent events of 1916 are interpreted without glorification of the workers, and with barely any reference to the Bolsheviks and the revolutionaries.

Tsar Nicholas II, played with striking verisimilitude by Yuliy Lina, is portrayed in human and almost sympathetic terms as a proud and weak man unable to comprehend the crisis around him.

Scheming and corruption in his court, and on the other hand, the film shows unusually that there were perceptive men in the Duma, the Russian Parliament, and in the ruling class, who tried to save Russia from the coming catastrophe.

Petersenko with ferocious intensity. His depravity, cunning, rages, self-deception and ruthless hold over the royal family are powerfully drawn. But he is no caricature: his links to the Russian peasantry and his exploitation of the Orthodox Church are detailed with almost documentary precision.

Elem Klimov, the director, uses the black-and-white film of the carnage on the battlefields, and the stark and poverty in St Petersburg, as a



Rasputin: Ruthless hold

bitter comment on Rasputin's influence and on the dithering at court, and the gulf between the rulers and ruled. But symbolism replaces propaganda, cinema replaces the usual preaching on the subject.

The orthodox interpretation of the end of the empire is still so mired in taboo that few Russians really know how to represent it except in clichés. Few books or films have attempted to show the grandeur, as well as the folly, the bourgeois past and its might as well as the strikes.

The official Soviet view is that individuals such as Rasputin had little more than marginal influence standing against the tide of history. His central role in the film makes good cinema but is not a class-oriented view of history.

But nowadays there is a fascination with the break-up of the Tsarist empire, a nostalgia for a world now so remote which yet still existed when most of the members of the present Politburo were boys.

Two years ago, a controversial novel, *The Final Frontier*, serialized in a literary journal, represented Rasputin as a weapon in the hands of Zionists and a confidant of the royal family. It was bitterly attacked by the Soviet press and the Soviet State and the treatment of sex, but because it failed also to give a class view of history.

The Soviet authorities have said the film will be shown—probably with heavy censorship—in the autumn. But so touchy is the subject that public curiosity is so great the film, highly praised by Russians and Westerners in the audience alike last night, might well return to the censors' shelf.

## Mass suicide cult member on trial

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles, July 21

A former disciple of Jim Jones, the People's Temple cult leader, today goes on trial in San Francisco charged with conspiring to murder Mr Leo Ryan, a United States congressman, and Mr Richard Dwyer, an American diplomat, in an airfield ambush in Guyana in November, 1978.

Larry Layton, a 35-year-old college graduate, is the only survivor of the suicide massacre of 912 cult members to stand trial. Mr Jones shot himself after ordering hundreds of his followers to drink a poisoned soft drink.

Jury selection is expected to take up to two weeks. Hearings of witnesses are not due to begin until August 17.

One of Mr Layton's lawyers, Mr Anthony Tamburello, claims that the United States Government is making a scapegoat of his client. Mr Layton is a victim of the State Department's negligence. He says that a full year before the mass suicides took place, the State Department knew that something like

that might happen but did nothing to prevent it.

Mr Layton was acquitted by a Guyana court 14 months ago, of attempting to murder two defecting cult members.

Judge Robert Peckham has overruled defence objections that Mr Layton cannot be tried twice in connection with the same incident. The judge said that Guyanese law was separate from United States law and that Mr Layton was being tried under a special United States statute.

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# The crisis in the Middle East

## Diary of 11 violent days on the border

By Our Foreign Staff

Tension across the Israel-Lebanon border is endemic. The present crisis is the latest in a long series of military exchanges and other incidents, going back to 1970-71 when the Palestinian forces established themselves in southern Lebanon after being driven out of Jordan.

While it is practically impossible to identify a single cause for the trouble, there is a pattern to the current series of armed clashes which appears to have started shortly after the Israeli general election.

Tension was already high after the clash over the Syrian Sam 6 missiles and the Israeli bombing of the Iraqi nuclear reactor.

July 7: A pilotless aircraft crashed in Lebanese territory. Israeli sources said it was on a routine reconnaissance flight and a mechanical failure caused the crash. There was also a minor artillery skirmish between the Palestine Liberation Organisation and the Christian militia in southern Lebanon.

July 10: The first serious incident—four strikes by the Israeli Air Force in the vicinity of Nabatiyeh during the day and that night six Israeli civilians were wounded when several Katyusha rockets fired from the Palestinian bases in southern Lebanon hit the town of Kiryat Shimon.

The Israeli air attacks were the eleventh of this kind this year since the rocket attacks were assumed to have been carried out in retaliation.

July 11: An Israeli raid was launched on Palestinian targets in two coastal villages.

July 12: The Israeli and Christian militia started to bombard targets north of the Litani River including Beaufort Castle. The Palestinians returned the fire.

July 14: Israeli forces attacked three targets in the Nabatiyeh area for an hour and shot down a Syrian aircraft which attempted to intervene.

During that night Israeli aircraft flew over southern Lebanon dropping flares. This was followed by the shelling of Beaufort Castle. The Palestinians returned the fire.

July 15: About 1,000 rounds of artillery, mortar and tank fire were exchanged between the Palestinians and the Lebanese National Movement on one side, and the Israeli forces and the Christian militia on the other.

Douzes of Katyusha rockets were fired into western and upper Galilee. At Nabatiyeh three civilians were killed and 26 injured.

July 16: Israeli jets bombed targets in the Kawakaba Hasbaya area, shelling five villages. The Israeli Chief of Staff said the aim was "to prevent or interfere with the ability of the terrorists to transport forces or change their deployment."

July 17: Hostilities increased. In the morning the Palestinians fired Katyusha rockets into Galilee. In the afternoon the Israelis bombed the command centres of the Fatah organisation and the Democratic Front in the centre of Beirut. More than 100 were reported killed and 300 wounded.

The Israelis also bombed and shelled Beaufort Castle and attacked Tyre from the sea and destroyed Kasmeeh Bridge, over the Litani River.

There was also a heavy exchange of rockets, artillery and mortar fire in Galilee and southern Lebanon.

July 18: Katyusha rockets hit Galilee during the night. In the morning the Israelis fired 80 rounds at Palestinian targets. The Palestinians hit Nabatiyeh and its beach with 12 rounds, wounding six civilians.

July 19: Israeli jets attacked Beaufort Castle and the Nabatiyeh and Tyre areas. The Palestinians launched new rocket attacks.

According to the Israelis, rockets were also launched from Syrian territory. Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, rejected President Reagan's call for a ceasefire.

July 20: From late morning until far into the night, rockets and artillery fire was exchanged on Israel's northern border.

Seven Israeli soldiers were wounded and an officer was killed during a night raid on Palestinian positions in the Zaharani estuary. Several Palestinians were reported killed.

**MOSCOW HITS AT AMERICA**

From Michael Binyan  
Moscow, July 21

The Russians today accused the United States of supporting and encouraging what Tass called barbarous and piratical Israeli attacks on Lebanese towns and Palestinian refugee camps.

An official government statement said Israel was defying world opinion, ignoring international law and was being supplied with a continuous stream of deadly weapons by the United States.

Tass said America was trying to shield Israel and it also accused the Egyptian leadership of being a partner in an anti-Arab collusion and furthering Israel's aggressive aims.

Tass also accused the western leaders, meeting at Ottawa, of ignoring Israel's "terrorist air raids" on housing areas of Beirut and the killing of civilians.

The agency said the seven western countries were reviving the cold war, and following Washington's "adventurous anti-soviet strategy."



A child is carried from the rubble of Friday's Israeli air raid on Beirut.

## Begin vulnerable in flow of dollar aid

From Nicholas Hirst, Washington, July 21

During 1981, the United States Government will supply Israel with loans and grants up to a total of \$2.15bn (£1,100m). On top of that are contributions from private sources that are estimated to provide about half as much again.

For the past few years the American taxpayer has provided each Israeli with between \$400 and \$600 annually to finance Israel's military and development programmes.

If the Government aid were to be cut off, reduced, or the private contributions frozen as a result of sanctions imposed by the United Nations as retribution for Israel's continued attacks on Lebanon, the damage to the Israeli economy would be severe.

As yet there is no sign of that happening. The pro-Israel lobby in the United States is strong, and support for Israel in both the Administration and

the legislature remains, but the continued aggression in Lebanon is beginning to raise doubts. Israel's image as the brave, battling small guy taking on the big battalions is being eaten away daily, and not all American Jews are happy with the raids on Lebanon.

The position favouring Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, was put by Mr David Geller, director of special projects in the Foreign Affairs Department of the American Jewish Committee, one of the oldest established Jewish organisations in the United States.

"The Israelis are just not in a position to allow the Palestinian Liberation Organisation to operate from Lebanon. Everyone wants peace, but Israel cannot allow PLO rockets to come into northern villages and there be no response."

Continued shelling of Lebanon has, however, caused more doubts over American support for Israel than anything

before. The Administration's decision to delay indefinitely delivery of F16 fighters is a very significant one for President Reagan to make, and indicates as clearly as anything could the growing frustration with the way Israel has ignored America's need to remain on good terms with Arab states and promote peace in the area.

The question now is whether Congress will seek to alter the aid being planned for Israel for next year.

Aid planned for 1982 is exactly the same as is going this year. With aid to Egypt of almost the same size it amounts to two-thirds of Washington's total foreign aid budget.

Of the total aid to Israel, \$2,400m is under the heading "Foreign military sales". Israel gets \$500m of this as a grant, the only nation to do so. The rest is at interest rates reflecting the cost of money to the United States Government, but

which are cheaper than commercial terms. On top of that is \$750m of economic support, which in 1981 and 1982 is also planned as a grant, as a similar amount is to Egypt.

If Congress wanted to it could attach conditions to this aid, or even reduce it. With the military support there might be more problems as Israel receives at least \$1,000m a year in loans under specially written legislation.

There is an unwillingness to take any such action yet, but the fear of the political damage that would be done to a Congressman or Senator by cutting funds to Israel is receding as sympathy declines.

If their postbags begin to build up with anti-Israel sentiment, if the PLO keeps away from obvious atrocities, the feeling will continue to change. At the moment nobody wants to be the first to cut Israel's wings, but it is still possible.

## Few tears shed for civilians by Israelis

From Christopher Walker  
Jerusalem, July 21

As the Israeli Cabinet met in emergency session this morning a small throng of left-wing demonstrators gathered outside, carrying posters and shouting slogans calling for an immediate halt to the bombing of Palestinian targets in Lebanon.

The poor attendance at the demonstration was a reflection of the lack of division among the great majority of the public about the morality of the latest decision to use Israeli jets against concentrated areas of Arab population.

Israelis from all levels of society remain convinced that civilians are being used as a deliberate screen by the Palestinian guerrillas.

Yesterday in the border town of Kiryat Shimon, a resident angrily voiced an opinion often heard in all parts of the country. "The Palestinians are the people causing the trouble. If the Lebanese are prepared to risk living near their murder bases, that is their business, but it cannot affect our tactics."

Apart from a handful of left-wing deputies who described the Beirut raid as military adventurism one of the few outspoken public reactions came in a telegram to Mr Begin from kibbutz Haror-Ashdod which concluded: "We will not be reconciled to a policy of shelling civilian populations as a *modus operandi* in the war against terrorists."

The criticism was flatly rejected by Mr Begin, who claimed that under previous Labour administrations, cities and villages had been shelled directly by Israel and civilian populations had been attacked in response to terrorist actions.

He distinguished this from his policy of attacking terrorist bases irrespective of their position in relation to civilian areas.

## EEC farm ministers ban two hormones

From Peter Norman, Brussels, July 21

EEC agriculture ministers today banned the use of two synthetic hormones in rearing animals for human consumption. But they agreed here to allow the continued use of five other substances—subject to a scientific investigation and that the Commission would produce a report within nine months.

The decision was received coolly by consumer representatives who have been campaigning for a total ban on the use of hormones in fattening animals.

Mr Tony Venables, the director of the Brussels-based European Consumer Organisations said: "It looks as if they are hiding behind the scientific committee before taking a clear decision."

The banned substances are stilbestrol and oestrone, which are suspected of causing cancer. Most EEC states have already prohibited their use.

It was the discovery of stilbestrol in baby food in Italy last autumn which precipitated

the hormone scare and provoked consumer groups, backed by the French and Italian governments, to call for a total ban.

Today, largely because of resistance from Britain and Ireland to a total hormone ban, the agriculture ministers agreed that three natural hormones—oestradiol, progesterone and testosterone—could continue in use, as could two synthetic substances—trenbolone and zeranol.

Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, a Minister of State for Agriculture, said Britain had opposed a total ban because "nobody has proven that all substances are harmful". Financial considerations have played a part in determining the British approach. According to agriculture officials banning all hormones in fattening would cost the British food industry an estimated £20m a year.

The British stand has been reinforced by the American and Australian food industries, which both use hormones.

## Solidarity strike averted

From Dossa Trevisan and Denis Taylor, Warsaw, July 21

Warsaw, July 21.—Leaders of the Polish national airline LOT have agreed to suspend a strike threatened for Friday, a union spokesman said.

The decision came after negotiations all day with the Government, seeking to halt the threatened LOT strike and a dockers' protest as the Communist Party urged all Poles to help save their homeland.

The Solidarity spokesman at the airline said that the union suspended its strike threat after receiving a letter from General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Prime Minister, which it viewed as a sign that negotiations would continue.

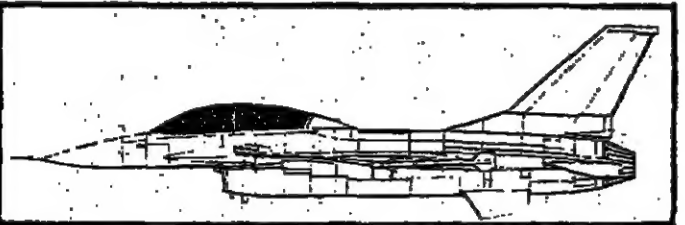
He added that Solidarity at LOT had not won its main demand—which was that the Government agreed to having a director chosen by the workers at an election in June. This, he said, would be the subject of further talks.—AP.

□ The dockers are seeking a charter guaranteeing longer leave and pay increases after 15 years of work, and after every subsequent five years. The Government says the demand is unrealistic (Our correspondent reports).

Steelworkers, miners and shipyard workers have already won similar charters, and the dockers claim that they only want equality with other heavy industry workers.

General Jaruzelski told the extraordinary congress of the Polish Communist Party which ended here yesterday that pressure for new wage increases through strikes would get Poland nowhere.

With the congress over, all the questions of this past turbulent year are still open and labour unrest remains a latent threat. Mr Stanislaw Kania, the party leader, heartened by his rousing vote of confidence, said at the close of the congress that the time had come for action.



The F16B, from "Jane's All the World's Aircraft".

## American pressure

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

Withholding F16 deliveries to the Israeli Air Force represents psychological pressure on Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, rather than the kind of military constraint which could seriously jeopardise his country's security.

But this is not to belittle the F16's reputation as the most cost-effective fighter in the West. Its combination of simplicity and sophistication have earned it the sobriquet of "the modern Spitfire" from more than one commentator.

The F16, sometimes dubbed the best fighter in the world, is by contrast all sophistication—with a price tag to match. But the histories of both aircraft are intertwined apart from their dual involvement in the Middle East.

The United States Air Force decided to procure the F16 in 1974, because it wanted quantity as well as quality to keep pace with the growing Soviet squadrons. The F15 air superiority aircraft was so expensive that to have bought the required number would have exceeded the Air Force budget. So it resolved on a mix of F15s and a new light combat fighter, the F16, instead.

Since then its most famous sale was to the four Nato countries, Norway, Denmark, Belgium and Holland, who decided on a joint purchase to replace their aging Starfighters. Pakistan is also expected to take delivery of a consignment before the end of this year.

Along with the F15, the United States Air Force is using the F16 to replace the F4 Phantom squadrons. It has only half the weight of the Phantom, but has twice the combat radius, and a turning circle which is half as good again.

Like the Phantom it can also be used as a ground attack aircraft, and can carry a comparable weapons load twice as far. Again like the Phantom, it is dual-capable, meaning that it can deliver nuclear as well as conventional munitions, but can also promise far greater accuracy than the aircraft it is replacing.

With a speed of more than twice that of sound, a multi-barrel 20mm cannon, air-to-air missiles on the wings and either extra fuel tanks or more missiles slung under the wings themselves, the F16 has

obvious attractions for an air force like Israel's, with its high spending on defence.

The F15 has a maximum speed of about two and a half times that of sound. Its four Sparrow and four Sidewinder air-to-air missiles are backed up by a rotating cannon in the fuselage.

□ Ottawa: There is no crisis in American-Israeli relations arising from Monday night's decision by President Reagan to continue withholding the delivery of a batch of F16 aircraft to Israel, a senior Administration official said today (Nicholas Ashford writes).

The decision on the aircraft was taken shortly after the eight Western leaders meeting in Ottawa had issued a joint statement calling for an end to the violence in the Middle East and it appeared to be part of a coordinated effort to discourage the Israelis from carrying out further raids into southern Lebanon.

However, the Americans have been anxious to avoid the impression that they are trying to twist the arm of Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister.

Mr Edwin Meese, counsel to President Reagan, said yesterday morning that there was no link between the decision to hold back deliveries of the F16s and American attempts to negotiate a ceasefire in southern Lebanon.

Asked what Israel would have to do in order to obtain the aircraft he said: "It's not a matter of Israel doing something, although in a quite separate action, of course, we're hoping there will be a ceasefire in the whole area. But it's more a matter of just the wrong time to send in the F16s."

Despite official disclaimers, there is no doubt that the President and his advisers are extremely vexed with Mr Begin over Israel's actions during the past few days.

Western leaders were satisfied that they had been able to produce a joint statement on the Middle East, although the French complained that the statement should have been stronger in its condemnation of Israel.

In a joint statement on political issues they gave a warning that the Soviet Union must not be allowed to achieve strategic or military superiority over the West.

**Jets raid market town**

Beirut, July 21.—Israeli jet aircraft struck against southern Lebanon today in spite of ceasefire calls from the United States and the United Nations, the Palestine news agency Wafa reported.

It quoted a Palestinian military communiqué as saying that the inland market town of Nabatiyeh was attacked at 3 pm GMT, drawing ground fire from Palestinian guerrilla positions. One aircraft was hit and seen trailing flames as it flew home.

The 30-minute raid came after the artillery and rocket exchanges between Israel and Southern Lebanon, with Israeli gunners battering the coastal town of Tyre and the stronghold of Beaufort Castle, Wafa went on.

Lebanon's Supreme Defence Council today met to discuss the Israeli attacks. Defence ministers of the Arab League are to meet in Tunis on Thursday.

□ More than 60 Conservative and Labour MPs yesterday tabled a Commons motion condemning the "savage Israeli air attack on Beirut".

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## Blasts cut power supplies in S Africa

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg, July 21

Limpet mines, believed to have been planted by black nationalist guerrillas, damaged two power stations in the eastern Transvaal and an electrical transformer near Pretoria early today. Nobody was injured but there was considerable damage.

The police said it would be speculation to assert that the explosions were connected but it appeared a well coordinated series of attacks bearing the hallmarks of the outlawed African National Congress. The explosions occurred within minutes of each other between 1.40 am and 2 am.

South African newspapers were warned today that power stations fall under the National Key Points Act and that no details of security measures in force could be published.

The first explosions at the Arnot power station, south-east of Witbank, destroyed three transformers. Ten minutes later two explosions destroyed two transformers and five generator couplings at the Camden power station and the town of Ermelo, 11 miles to the north-west was without electricity for four hours.

Near Pretoria, a mine explosion damaged a partly-built electrical transformer.

A spokesman for the Electric Power Supply Commission, Eskom, refused to disclose how serious the damage was but said it did not appear that there would be any lasting effect on the power grid.

The mines used are thought to be similar to one found at an oil storage depot at Alberton, near Johannesburg, on July 3. It was discovered in a driveway used by hundreds of petrol tankers.

In April, Limpet mines wrecked an electricity substation near Durban, and there have been three mine explosions on railway lines in the Natal this year.

Shortly before South Africa's Republic Festival at the end of May, which the ANC swore to disrupt, powerful explosions badly damaged an army recruiting office in Durban and the city's war memorial, in what was considered a violent publicity stunt by the ANC to show its rejection of the celebrations.

Eskom has warned consumers that its power "bank" is a dangerous 12 per cent below the internationally accepted margin between demand and supply.

There have been serious power cuts this winter and Eskom has issued a warning that next winter the situation could be worse. This is partly because new orders for power stations were not placed in the mid-1970s when South Africa was undergoing an economic recession, and three power stations now being built will not come into commission before 1984.

The situation is being compounded by the unavailability of supplies from the Cahora Bassa hydro-electric station in Mozambique because of guerrilla action by the anti-Frelimo Mozambique Resistance Movement.



Over the grey Danube: Improvised catwalks helped people to move around in Passau, West Germany, yesterday after the swollen river flooded the town. Four people died in the Bavarian floods including a British army officer. The authorities gave his name as Lieutenant A. Grant Carter, aged 21, from Glasgow.

## CHANGE OF HEART BY HUNGARIAN

From Mario Modiano, Athens, July 21

Mr Kalman Szabo, a Hungarian academic who was granted political asylum in Greece after jumping from a second-floor balcony of the Hungarian embassy here, was flown to Budapest in a stretcher today after a Greek Foreign Ministry statement saying that he had changed his mind.

The episode embarrassed both governments. Mr Szabo, of the Greek literature department at Budapest University, was to have served as interpreter for the Greek Foreign Minister, during his official visit to Athens last week.

Mr Szabo suffered multiple fractures, and an internal haemorrhage from his fall. He told the police he had jumped after hearing embassy employees suggesting his forcible repatriation or worse. The Hungarian embassy denied this, claiming his fall was due to dizziness. Asylum was granted within 24 hours.

When Mr Szabo's wife, who is of Greek origin, arrived from Budapest she claimed her husband had been half unconscious when his signature was obtained on a petition for asylum. Yesterday, in the hospital's intensive care unit, Mr Szabo signed a formal declaration of voluntary repatriation.

## China may approach UN for help over flood aid

From David Bonavia, Hongkong, July 21

China is expected to ask the United Nations to help channel emergency relief aid from all countries willing to contribute after the floods, as was done at the time of last year's severe droughts in central and northern China.

The destruction of grain harvests over large areas of Sichuan will certainly mean food shortages for many of the province's 100 million people.

Soldiers and civilians there are gradually restoring order after the havoc wrought there by the past few days' flooding of the Yangtze river.

No official casualty figure has been released as final but deaths from the floods are likely to run into the thousands, with perhaps hundreds of thousands of people temporarily homeless.

Fortunately the Yangtze acts as a natural channel of communication between Sichuan and the big ports of the east coast, especially Shanghai, where grain could be unloaded and sent upstream. Normally China's grain imports are consumed in the big coastal cities.

The biggest source of relief among Chinese officials in the stricken area is the proven staunchness of the new Geshuiba dam, upstream from the big city of Wuhan and the farmlands of Hubei province.

With flood water at one time moving through at only 5,000 cubic metres a second, less than the dam's projected capacity of 90,000 cubic metres a second, (representing the worst inundation since 1906), the designers and engineers passed an anxious time but the dam held.

The damage to crops in Sichuan, combined with continued problems of drought in northern China, could inflate the country's grain imports to nearly 15 million tons in the 1981-82 crop year, mostly from the United States. Damage to the province's developed industrial sector will not be accurately assessed for some time.

Floods are also expected this year on the Yellow River and the north and could cause damage to crops there, though the main problem in that part of China is still drought.

□ Peking: A flood control official said today that the floods killed between 700 and 800 people—far fewer than the earlier estimate of 4,000 (Reuters reports).

He reported by telephone from Sichuan that many of those originally feared drowned had managed to fight their way to high ground.

The health situation was now generally good after medical teams had reached most of the affected areas, he said.

## CONCESSION WON BY DAUGHTER

By David Spanier, Diplomatic Correspondent

The Soviet Union has allowed the daughter of one of their important scientists to return to Moscow from Israel for the funeral of her mother.

It is the first time the Russians gave someone permission to return in this way. It was arranged very quickly, probably at the top level. I did not know why they did it," Mrs. Sonia Levin told *The Times* in London yesterday.

Mr Levin is the daughter of Professor Alexander Lerner, an authority on cybernetics. The Lerner family has been waiting for exit visas to join her in Israel since 1971.

Perhaps the Russians wanted to show her father respect, as an important scientist. Or perhaps they did not want to face the international protest in refusing her permission to attend her mother's funeral.

Mr Levin, who spent a week in Moscow, found her father and brother living in difficult circumstances. "They are two lonely men, alone," she said. "Although my father is a scientist, he has to sit and do nothing. He is fond of drawing pictures. In the winter he conducts a seminar for other discredited scientists."

"The only thing that keeps them going is the thought that they may get their emigration visas tomorrow."

## Law Report Court of Appeal

### Probation reports that cause harm through justices' sentences

Regina v James  
Before Lord Justice Lawton, Mr Justice Thompson and Mrs Justice Heilbrunn  
[Judgment delivered July 21]

Sensible recommendations made by probation officers were welcomed by the courts. If they were not sensible, they might do more harm than good by causing magistrates to pass sentences which the public found difficult to understand.

The Court of Appeal refused an application by Michael James for leave to appeal against a sentence of five years imprisonment imposed on him on March 23, 1981 at Middlesex Crown Court (Judge Solomon) on his conviction of wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm contrary to section 18 of the Offences Against the Person Act, 1861.

On May 12, 1979 the applicant, then aged 18, had armed himself with two broken milk bottles, rushed into the victim's electrical goods shop and had cut the victim badly close to the eyes.

Mr R. M. Jaffe for the applicant said that the offence was as bad a case of "glassing" as it was possible to imagine, and a severe sentence was the only way to show that the society would not tolerate such behaviour.

Their Lordships wished to call attention to two social inquiry reports prepared by a senior probation officer. One was put before the Crown Court. Despite the fact that the applicant had been sentenced for a short period, it had astonished the trial judge that such a recommendation should have been made, and he suggested that his comments should be brought to the attention of the probation officer for the Court of Appeal, in which the less recommendation was repeated.

If the probation officer had bothered to look at the photographs which would have known that terrible damage the applicant had done, but still the thought a probation order was the proper order to make.

Many years ago the Streetlight Committee had suggested that probation officers should make recommendations for the court. Before that time, had been regarded as unseemly but since then the courts had welcomed recommendations, provided they were sensible.

If they were not they tended to do more harm than good. Recommendations that were not sensible carried no weight whatever with experienced judges, but the danger was that they might carry weight with magistrates.

That might explain very often how it came about that sentences were passed in magistrates' courts which were difficult for the public to understand. The Probation Department of the Home Office should have its attention brought to these comments.

Solicitor: Marcus-Barakat.

Regina v Secretary of State for the Home Department ex parte Hassan and Others  
Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Shaw and Lord Justice Griffiths  
[Judgment delivered July 20]

A man who knows that his permission to stay in this country has been granted on the basis of a false statement of fact, and that he is not entitled to be treated otherwise than as being in breach of the immigration laws.

The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by the applicants, Mr Shabeh-ul-Hassan, of Westworth Road, Golders Green, London, and two others, against their removal from the country.

The Divisional Court (Lord Justice Donaldson and Mr Justice Forbes) on November 14, 1980, granted an order of judgment to quash the Immigration Officer's order of May 15, 1980, for their detention and removal from the United Kingdom.

He had a brother who told him that he could obtain extensions for him; and did so. It was conceded that Masood had no knowledge of or complicity in any fraud and was entirely innocent.

Lord Justice Donaldson said that "the starting point must be that the Kinnett leave and the subsequent leaves were wholly validly obtained leave expired in 1976."

The Divisional Court had gone on to say that the Secretary of State in considering Masood's case should take into account the fact that Masood was quite innocent.

The Divisional Court also dealt with the case of the Hassan family. Mr Hassan had come here in 1974 to take up a very responsible position as a bank manager. His wife and children also came here and his mother came as a visitor.

In 1976 there was a question of the mother getting an extension. A friend came to the bank and told Mr Hassan that he was in close touch with Crofton and could get any leave. Subsequently, indefinite leave was given to the family through Mr Kinnett, and Mr Hassan on occasions left and returned to the United Kingdom.

In December 1976, a few days after an immigration officer had pointed out a difference in date upon his passport, Mr Hassan lost that passport. He got another Pakistani passport and had it stamped with indefinite leave to enter by Mr Kinnett.

Solicitors: John Spittle & Frank Howard, Warrington; Mr N. B. Jennings, Exeter.

Mr Anthony Scrivener, QC and Mr K. S. Nathan for the applicants; Mr Simon D. Brown and Mr Michael F. Harris for the Home Secretary.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that in Immigration Officer Crofton, Mr Peter Kinnett had been in charge of issuing leave to people to come into this country from Pakistan and that he was a close friend of Masood's.

In March 1980 he was convicted and sentenced to three years' imprisonment under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1958, for taking bribes from people wishing to stay and issuing leaves to stay which they were not entitled to.

Speaking without further argument, his Lordship would have thought that all those documents which were issued giving leave which had been obtained by fraud were void and invalid in point of law.

The first case before the Divisional Court had been that of a Pakistani called Masood who came here as a visitor and stayed here as a student.

He had a brother who told him that he could obtain extensions for him; and did so. It was conceded that Masood had no knowledge of or complicity in any fraud and was entirely innocent.

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## Cost of libel insurance could close newspapers

From Our Correspondent, Colombo, July 21

A Cabinet plan to compel newspapers to insure against defamation claims could jeopardize the freedom of opposition and independent newspapers in Sri Lanka, according to protests lodged with President J. R. Jayawardene.

The most dangerous feature of the proposed legislation, according to the Movement for the Defence of Democratic Rights, is that the Cabinet itself is to determine how much insurance, cash deposit or guarantee bond each newspaper must furnish. This also enjoys the support of a Cabinet spokesman at a press briefing.

The Government already controls the newspapers of two of the three large newspaper groups which publish daily newspapers in Sinhalese, English and Tamil. Radio and television are Government monopolies.

In addition to direction of the Government Film Unit, the Government also regulates the cinema industry through the Film Corporation and the Public Performances Board which censors films and plays.

While the colourless Government-owned newspapers will have no difficulty in insuring with the two state insurance corporations (which also enjoy monopoly) the investigative and lively opposition and independent newspapers, many of which operate on shoestring budgets, may be forced out of existence.

They receive little or no advertising from the Government and big business and as their revenue depends on sales they could be crippled if called to pay very high premiums. In effect, the ruling United National Party and other political parties or independent groups should pay by way of insurance.

Another group, the Civil Rights Movement, says in its protest letter to the President that for the Government to treat every newspaper as a potential lethal object like a motor car which must be insured against third-party risks is a strange idea which is not, as far as CRM is aware, known elsewhere.

The reason given for the proposed legislation is that it is to enable persons who are defamed to collect damages awarded by the courts if the newspaper organizations concerned lack the financial resources to pay such damages.

Such cases have been rare in the past and the Movement for the Defence of Democratic Rights has told President Jayawardene that what will be in question "will be the quantum of a hypothetical award which may be made by a court in respect of a hypothetical defamatory publication, and therefore there will be no definite basis for the assessment."

Provision already exists in the Press Council Law for individuals or institutions with grievances to appeal to the Press Council to order any publications concerned to publish clarifications, retractions or apologies. This procedure has been used frequently.

## End in sight to wind of change Troubled nation with no material worries

Patrick Knight, in the second of two articles on Argentina, reports from Buenos Aires on the pressures bedeviling the Government. The first article, on the country's economic uncertainty, appeared yesterday.

Argentina's deep economic crisis, which has caused the peso to fall in value by 75 per cent this year, and resulted in industrial output being cut back by 40 per cent, is symptomatic of a deeper political crisis.

The incoming ministerial team has so far shown no sign of being able to overcome it or even agree what to do. Industrialists are pressing the Government to return to the market by lending \$8,000m on the softest possible terms, and also to raise tariffs on imports again.

This policy would increase inflation, already expected to reach 150 per cent this year, compared with 87 per cent last year, and effectively destroy all that the previous Finance Minister, Señor José Martínez de Hoz, achieved.

Unions offering to collaborate Both the labour unions and the politicians, in theory banned from activity during the moment, are gaining courage from the lack of authority and are beginning to put pressure on the Government to accommodate them once again.

The still potentially powerful unions who can argue that 400,000 people have been put out of work in the past six months, 10 per cent of the workforce, are also quietly offering to collaborate with the Government, in exchange for a better deal for the men they represent, and a return to protectionism.

Just as a reminder, there have been a few short stoppages in recent weeks, with the threat of an illegal general strike towards the end of the month.

Even the turbulent generals have been shaken by the economic typhoon which has swept the country, partly as a result of their reluctance to back President Videla, and they are now loudly pleading allegiance.

The problem is that there are few forces in Argentina contending the value of continuing to make sacrifices in exchange for maintaining the limited advantages of Señor Martínez de Hoz's enforced opening to competition.

The benefits have included a breath of fresh air on an almost frozen society, and a sudden awareness that there is another world outside something which until recently most of xenophobic and backward looking Argentina hardly allowed itself to admit.

But the cost has been very high, and the cost of persisting with it would certainly be higher still. Powerful voices are being raised which imply Argentina returning to the economic and subsequently political isolationism from which it has so recently emerged.

It is hard for the outside to appreciate the extent to which Argentina remains cut off from major world currents.

The geographical situation explains a great deal. Momentous events in the Middle East or Europe hardly find an echo here, and certainly make no impact on the local scene.

Self-sufficient in oil, a big food exporter, and with a small population, Argentina does not have to worry, materially speaking, about what happens in the rest of the world, and more often than not does not do so.

There are strong voices pressing once again for most of the economic ties with the rest of the world to be cut, and even for a return to a military-led model, which implies the emergence of another figure similar to General Juan Perón.

The military regional and other commanders have illustrated that the writ of the central Government does not always run in their provinces.

This analysis also implies the repetition in a few years time of the guerrilla rebellion, which has resulted in a very deep cynicism by the young, and their total lack of commitment to, or participation in, political or public affairs.

Most of the Montoneros and the ERP guerrillas, who caused such havoc in the mid-Seventies, came from privileged middle class families.

There seem to be few voices aware of the dangers of a regression, or at least with sufficient power to do anything about it.

Fatal decisions on the cards Many Argentines, egged on by the soldiers, whose influence and dominance of public life seems to be almost total, seem to wish for no more than to go to war with Chile over the Beagle Channel dispute; an issue hard for anybody outside the claustrophobic Argentine atmosphere to comprehend, let alone to follow, but which captures headlines in Buenos Aires.

Another vital issue is the fate of the Falkland Islands, whose inhabitants confound Argentines by not wishing to be incorporated into Argentina.

The state of affairs in this land of material plenty seems to illustrate that there is a point where an overabundance of resources can almost totally destroy moral strengths.

Argentina seems to be once again on the point of opting for an easy, but in the long term probably fatal way out of its present political and economic impasse, by turning to the heroes and ideals of the past, which have been discredited, eventually, everywhere else, but in this rarified atmosphere, still seem to strike a chord.

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### Leave to stay revoked after taking corrupt advantage

### No bar on honest notice of default

### Strict procedure for majority verdicts

Regina v Reynolds  
Section 17(3) of the Juries Act, 1974, which provides that a crown court shall not accept a majority verdict unless the foreman of the jury has stated in open court the number of persons who agreed to and dissented from the verdict, was explicit and unambiguous and had to be meticulously followed.

Accordingly, a statement by a foreman that 10 jurors agreed with a verdict, without specifying the number who dissented, did not satisfy the requirements of the section, and a verdict taken in such a way could not be accepted.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Shaw, Mr Justice Tudor Evans and Mr Justice Sheldon) allowed an appeal against conviction for three offences of theft by Janice, Elizabeth, Reynolds, Cambridge Crown Court, on the basis, that the conviction, was based on majority verdicts which failed to comply with section 17(3) of the Juries Act, 1974, in that while stating how many jurors agreed with the majority verdicts of guilty, the foreman of the jury failed to specify how many dissented.

LORD JUSTICE SHAW, reading the judgment of the court, said that section 17 re-enacted section 13 of the Criminal Justice Act, 1967, which introduced the

concept of the majority verdict. In so far as it made conviction possible by a verdict that was not unanimous it eroded to some extent one of the historical liberties of the subject. It was therefore not surprising that the operation of the innovation was subject to stringent conditions.

The requirement in section 17(3) that where there was a majority verdict the foreman of the jury should state in open court how many jurors dissented was neither more nor less imperative than stating, as was held in *R v Barry* (1975) Cr App R 172, how many agreed.

The section was in derogation of the common law and had to be meticulously followed if a majority verdict was to be legitimately accepted. It was the duty of the presiding judge to see that they were followed.

The insistence on requiring a statement in open court by the foreman of how many jurors dissented was to preclude a verdict being accepted where 10 had agreed but one or both of the remaining jurors had not formed a final view.

On hearing the foreman say that two dissented, they would have the opportunity of denouncing publicly to the foreman's assertion. Otherwise the verdict might operate against a defendant when only 10 of the jury had made up their minds.

### No power to impose additional condition

Regina v Bentham  
Before Lord Justice Lawton, Mr Justice Thompson and Mrs Justice Heilbrunn  
[Judgment delivered July 20]

A circuit judge had no power, under section 50(1), to impose an additional condition.

The Court of Appeal, granting an application to appeal more than six years out of time, allowed an appeal by Mr William Bentham against an order made by the late Judge Polson at Exeter Crown Court on November 11, 1974, granting Mr Bentham's application for a period of disqualification from driving, to impose an additional condition.

The Criminal Appeal Act, 1968, provides by section 9 that "A person who has been convicted of an offence on indictment may appeal to the Court of Appeal against any sentence, or any order made by a court in dealing with an offender."

In section 50 (1) "sentence" is defined as including any order made by a court when dealing with an offender.

Mr John Dowse for the appellant; Mr R. M. Meeks for the prosecutor.

Mr Anthony Scrivener, QC and Mr K. S. Nathan for the applicants; Mr Simon D. Brown and Mr Michael F. Harris for the Home Secretary.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that in Immigration Officer Crofton, Mr Peter Kinnett had been in charge of issuing leave to people to come into this country from Pakistan and that he was a close friend of Masood's.

In March 1980 he was convicted and sentenced to three years' imprisonment under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1958, for taking bribes from people wishing to stay and issuing leaves to stay which they were not entitled to.

Speaking without further argument, his Lordship would have thought that all those documents which were issued giving leave which had been obtained by fraud were void and invalid in point of law.

The first case before the Divisional Court had been that of a Pakistani called Masood who came here as a visitor and stayed here as a student.

He had a brother who told him that he could obtain extensions for him; and did so. It was conceded that Masood had no knowledge of or complicity in any fraud and was entirely innocent.

Lord Justice Donaldson said that "the starting point must be that the Kinnett leave and the subsequent leaves were wholly validly obtained leave expired in 1976."

The Divisional Court had gone on to say that the Secretary of State in considering Masood's case should take into account the fact that Masood was quite innocent.

The Divisional Court also dealt with the case of the Hassan family. Mr Hassan had come here in 1974 to take up a very responsible position as a bank manager. His wife and children also came here and his mother came as a visitor.

In 1976 there was a question of the mother getting an extension. A friend came to the bank and told Mr Hassan that he was in close touch with Crofton and could get any leave. Subsequently, indefinite leave was given to the family through Mr Kinnett, and Mr Hassan on occasions left and returned to the United Kingdom.

In December 1976, a few days after an immigration officer had pointed out a difference in date upon his passport, Mr Hassan lost that passport.







## Part three of Sonya: The Life of Countess Tolstoy by Anne Edwards

In the autumn of 1883, a new friend entered Tolstoy's life: the thirty-year-old Vladimir Grigorievich Chertkov, whom Sonya would come to regard as the devil incarnate. Like Socrates's devoted disciple Alcibiades, the young, strikingly attractive Chertkov was rich and aristocratic — the only son of a regal, domineering mother, who had been a close friend of the Empress Maria Alexandrovna [the Tsar's mother], and a military father who had served as an adjutant general under Alexander II. He was tall and slim and wore his clothes in a graceful, almost foppish fashion. His deep-set black eyes — so dark that there seemed to be no distinction between iris and pupil — had a rather cynical cast. His nose was aquiline; his expression suggested that he was an intense and wilful man, and in fact these traits had shaped his life. At an early age he had resigned his commission in the Horse Guards and had set out on a licentious life.

As Tolstoy had once done, he gave himself over to drinking, gambling, and dissipation. Several years later, under the threat of disinheritance, Chertkov took a sharp turn toward more useful activities. However, he had no clear idea of what he wanted to do, and he floundered about accomplishing little and wasting his financial resources. Within a relatively short time he worked, to little effect, in local government and also founded an unsuccessful trade school, an under-equipped clinic, and a financially insecure credit and savings company. He then threw himself (and a good part of the income from his estates) into charitable works inspired by what he had read and heard about Tolstoy's philosophy. He was now determined to assist the master himself.

In the beginning Sonya was disarmed by Chertkov, who aroused a certain pity in her. He spoke in a curiously high and drawing voice, a mannerism that he obviously hoped would disguise his slight stutter but that instead drew attention to it. Wearing knickerbockers and a Norfolk jacket, he cut a ludicrous figure as he walked with the peasant-garbed Tolstoy in Yasnaya Polyana's fields; and his inept attempts to help with the harvesting made him an object of fun. Sonya's amused compassion turned into a more reserved caution, however, when he began to display frightening rudeness; he was domineering and irritable one moment, fiercely animated and restless the next. Tolstoy did not share his wife's growing coolness toward Chertkov. He was delighted by his new disciple and confidant, and within six months of their first meeting, he wrote in his diary, "he and I are amazingly as one."

His intimacy with Chertkov appeared to ease the painful feeling of isolation which had dogged Tolstoy during the years since his brother Nikolai's death. In his eyes Chertkov may have been the brother who should have lived, the son who was old and experienced enough to understand him, the companion in purpose and thought that Sonya was no longer. Tolstoy may have seen himself in his young protégé; and they shared many of the same traits — a contempt of public opinion, an audacious independence and fearlessness in their dealings with those in authority, and a readiness to suffer for their convictions. And Chertkov had broken with St. Petersburg society as he had done, and thus relinquished the privileges of an aristocratic and pampered life which were his by birth. Tolstoy valued this renunciation highly.

### Firm hold on affections

By early 1884 Chertkov had gained a firm hold on Tolstoy's affections and an important place in his daily life. Over the next decade he mounted a campaign to undermine Sonya by discrediting her to her children. Chertkov was determined to exercise control over every scrap of paper on which Tolstoy had written. Most importantly, he wanted to gain possession of his notebooks. Although his motives remain obscure, he claimed to be driven by a desire to protect Tolstoy. He constantly urged Tolstoy and his children to regard these private papers as documents of a uniquely valuable import which must not be sullied by commercial publication. He further suggested that it would be an outrage for anyone (that is, Sonya) to profit from this record of Tolstoy's spiritual journey.

The diaries, notebooks, and letters had not been among the works whose copyrights Tolstoy had renounced, and under the terms of his will they were to go to Tanya and Masha. Chertkov began to bombard Tanya with letters of advice, suggesting that these papers must remain out of her mother's hands. Tanya finally asked Tolstoy what he wanted done with these writings after his death. He replied that while he had no objection to their being read by Tanya, Masha, and the other children, he did not want them to be published. Tanya then said that she believed his will left the decision about publication to Masha and her. "And to Chertkov," he added, saying that no one understood him as Chertkov did.

But was Chertkov, in fact, the ardent and faithful follower he claimed to be? While he did practise vegetarianism and lived



Sonya and Tolstoy at Yasnaya Polyana: Home, but not a haven



Chertkov: Campaigned to undermine Sonya

## Wrestling with 'the Devil'

In 1883 a new and sinister figure stepped into the tussle for Tolstoy's affections — Vladimir Chertkov. Specifically, he and Sonya became over the following years rivals for Tolstoy's notebooks, the record of his spiritual journey, and the rights to his literary works. Chertkov did not scruple to use the children as weapons. To Sonya it seemed that "evil spirits have seized upon the man I love"...

Chertkov, Sasha was shocked to hear members of the entourage refer to these three groups as "first, second, and third class." She also overheard an exchange between two of Chertkov's stable boys. After the first remarked, "Look, look, Alyosha is trying to squeeze into the first class," the second answered, "Well, he likes rice cakes and jam and stewed fruit. I guess he's tired of boiled potatoes and sunflower oil!" Chertkov's proximity to Yasnaya Polyana was not all Sonya had to tolerate. He seldom left her alone with her husband during the day or evening. If he was not on hand himself, one of his secretaries or a trusted Tolstoyan was. He read every word Tolstoy wrote, sometimes demanding changes, to which Tolstoy almost always agreed. He followed him around with a notebook and took down any comment or conversation he deemed significant.

Sonya suddenly decided to travel to Stockholm. Age had dimmed her beauty, and Chertkov was undermining her position; she felt entirely exposed, unprotected, alone. Everyone around her — her husband, Sasha, even her secretary, who was now doing work for Chertkov and had been won over by him — was set in a conspiracy against her. Those who could have helped — her older daughter, her five sons, her sister Tanya — were never there when she needed them. At times she dressed with infinite care, coiffed her hair becomingly, and smiled indulgently as she made her way past the hated "dark ones," her back straight and her chin raised. She was often, however, seized by terror and hysteria. Strands of grey hair fluttered about her face and her dark eyes were red and swollen from weeping. During these times she would take no interest in her clothing, and her hand would tremble as she raised it to her throat — a frequent gesture, for emotional stress gave her a choking sensation. Sonya's

mental illness was certainly exacerbated by Tolstoy's refusal to confirm her rights to his works. He knew that she was not driven by greed but by pride. By denying her rights to his work, he denied her importance and denied her conviction that as his wife she held a position of special dignity and prestige.

### Subject to his will

One evening Sonya made an entry in her diary under the heading "Memorandum Before Death." After listing all her symptoms — "spasm in the throat, sharp pains in [the] heart, a migraine headache, an inability to stop weeping" — she went on: "Is it hysteria? a nervous stroke, or the beginning of insanity? I let me confess the truth: I was wretched because of this long, unaccustomed separation from Lev Nikolaevich. He has a repulsive, senile love for Chertkov (in his youth he used to fall in love with men), and he is completely subject to his will and to his homosexual designs. [during 1908-10 she had frequently accused Chertkov of homosexuality.] I am insanely jealous of Lev Nikolaevich's intimacy with Chertkov; I feel that he has taken from me all that I have lived for during 48 years." Continuing in a less coherent fashion, she made complicated plans for poisoning herself. She described her coffin — "a rounded lid covered with rose-coloured or white brocade" — and remarked, "How enormous my nose will seem as it sticks up in death." The entry closes with a hysterical "Quicker! Quicker! It will be too late. . . I have drunk the opium. . . He is coming." She had not taken a poisonous dose, but her delusions and mad dreams suggest that Sonya was indeed taking opium and that she was under its fearful effects quite frequently during this

a true understanding of our real relations — if you fear this, I am glad of the opportunity to express in my diary, or, quite simply, even in this letter, my relationship to you and my evaluation of your life.

My attitude towards you and my estimation of you are this: just as I loved you in my youth, so I have never ceased loving you, and love you still, despite various reasons for coolness. The reasons for this coolness were, first, my withdrawing further and further from the interests of temporal life and my repugnance for them, whereas you neither would nor could relinquish them, not having in your soul those principles that led me to my convictions — which is very natural and for which I do not reproach you.

The second reason is that your disposition in recent years has become more and more irritable, despotism, and lacking in self-control. The manifestation of these traits of character could not but cool, not my feeling itself, but the expression of it. That is the second reason. The third and main reason was that fatal one for which neither of us is to blame — which is our absolutely contrary understanding of life has been completely antithetical: the way of life, relations to people, even the means of living property, which I consider an "evil" and you consider a necessary condition of life. I have submitted to a way of life which was difficult for me in order not to part from you, while you have taken this as a concession to your views, and the misunderstanding between us has grown greater and greater. The point is that despite these misunderstandings I have not ceased loving and esteeming you.

My estimation of your life is this: I, a debauched man, deeply depraved in the sexual sense, and no longer in my first youth, married you, a pure, beautiful, clever eighteen-year-old girl, and my vile, dissolute past notwithstanding, you have lived with me for almost fifty years, loving me, living a hard, industrious life, bearing children, nursing them, rearing them, caring for them and for me, and not succumbing to the temptations that might easily have enticed any other strong, healthy, beautiful woman in your position. You have lived in such a way that I have nothing to reproach you for. I do not, cannot, reproach you for failing to follow me in my unusual spiritual movement, for each man's spiritual life is a mystery between him and God, and no one can require anything different of him. And if I have made demands on you, then I was mistaken, and in this I am guilty.

So here you have a true description of my relation to you and my estimation of you. And as for what can be found in the diaries, I only know that nothing harsh, nothing that would be contrary to what I am, now writing, will be found there.

Stop torturing, not others, but yourself, my darling, for you are suffering one hundred times more than anyone else. That is all.

Lev Tolstoy  
Morning, 14 July 1910

On Tolstoy's instructions, his daughters Sasha and Varya went to Chertkov's to repossess the diaries (there was a tall, heavy stack of them). Without her father's knowledge, Sasha helped Chertkov, Sergeyenko [Chertkov's adviser], and Goldenweiser and his wife hastily copy any passages that Sasha thought he might destroy. Several hours later Chertkov, "standing on the porch . . . with mock solemnity, made the sign of the cross three times over [Sasha] with the packet of letters, and then handed them to her. It was not easy for him to part with them!"

Sonya stood impatiently waiting on the veranda of Yasnaya Polyana as Sasha and Varya returned from their mission. She grabbed the large package with such vehemence that the diaries fell to the floor. She did not seem to understand all that was said to her and after a consultation with Tolstoy, it was agreed that two doctors, one the eminent psychiatrist G. I. Rosolimo, be asked to come from Moscow to examine her.

### Final deed was done

After spending several hours with Sonya, the doctors stated that she was in a state of nervous collapse and was suffering from severe depression caused by menopause. Characteristically, Tolstoy did not agree; both he and Sasha continued to believe that she was simply "torturing herself and everyone else" by acting badly. The doctors left, having done nothing to improve Sonya's condition. Less than a week later Chertkov visited Yasnaya Polyana, and on seeing him Sonya became rude and antagonistic. The family and guests gathered on the terrace for tea. The samovar boiled cheerily on the table, the bowl of raspberries stood out like a bright red patch on the white tablecloth, but those sitting around the table looked as if they were serving a prison sentence and hardly touched their tea.

Sonya felt that "something awful and irreparable had just happened," and this conviction proved true. That morning Chertkov had dispatched three emissaries with a new revised will for Tolstoy to sign. Sasha and Tolstoy met the three "witnesses" in the woods near the village of Grumond and there, sitting on the stump of a tree, Tolstoy signed a will that placed all his works (including those written before 1881) in the public domain. He also signed a separate document, drawn up by Chertkov, which made Sasha the nominal executrix but Chertkov the actual administrator of his literary estate.

It had been done. The act which Sonya had so dreaded had been committed. The literary rights to Tolstoy's early works which she had so violently fought to keep for herself and her family had been lost.

© 1981 Anne Edwards  
From Sonya: The Life of Countess Tolstoy, by Anne Edwards, which is published by Hodder and Stoughton at £8.50.

### Tomorrow Tolstoy flees to his death



Apostle or leech? Chertkov sits on Tolstoy's right



Tolstoy with wife and daughters at Yasnaya Polyana



## The British youth rebellion: often only skin deep

# The brain beneath the bristle

John O'Leary, a local skinhead aged 18, sat sipping a lager outside The Walford in Stoke Newington High Street. His girlfriend Joan was at his elbow, dressed in a black and white outfit. A stream of black and white youths, some of two or three. Often enough, they would stop and chat to John and Joan: mates from work, or just neighbours.

"Going down the road?" asked John of most of them, and sometimes the handsome, cocky, athletic blacks would agree that, yes, they'd meet up later. Like going to the cinema, or to hear a band, or have a drink.

Actually, they were expecting to share a riot. This was Hackney in its summertime weekend cocktail hour. The world was promenading, out to see the fun and watch the shopkeepers putting up the last of the chipboard. A policeman on a horse and more affluent blacks in not-so-new BMWs and Cortinas were making their way to the scene of potential action: the Dalston Lane junction. A carnival air, with its undertone of misrule and upheaval was in the wind.

If John O'Leary seems well-adjusted to the world around him — well-known and well-liked by people in this intermittently cheerful community — this is almost as much an embarrassment to him as it is to the theorists who maintain that skins are necessarily — and by self-conscious definition — the most alienated of the urban underworld.

Certainly, he bears the marks — they amount to a kind of stigma — of the breed. His head is rolled-up jeans (his are not bleached though, many are), and he's in his stubby, semi-military, bomb jacket. His boots have Doctor Marten's soles (so do many policemen's) and steel toe-caps. And, the crucial characteristic: his head is shaved, so that he resembles not merely the anti-hippie, the paradigmatic short-back-and-sides working man, but also bizarre, more desperate images. He looks like a beefed-up Dachau victim; a sek from *A Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*; a renegade from *East of Eden*.

No wonder sociologists from the Centre for Contemporary Cultural Studies at Birmingham University

### The nastiness melts away

He smiles, and looks agreeable, and that special wasted nastiness that the shaved head and bomber boots is designed to create, melts away. He becomes just an amiable lad, if no Einstein, who is making his mark in the world as best he may. Vaguely disliking Asians, he gets on well with West Indians, though he would probably be surprised to learn that some of the skinhead style evolved from the "harder" mods in the mid-sixties, and that that style had itself been borrowed from young Jamaicans, and the super cool they affected. (The perfect hard mods were re-emerging, as Rude Boys — a Jamaican term — in Leeds: multiracial groups dedicated to neat good looks, and racial integration.)

For as long as he restricts himself to the ritual squiffles with mods, John O'Leary, whose mum is worried about him and whose pretty sisters mock and cosset him in a casual kind of way, is in the ordinary condition of strong growing youngsters anywhere and at all times: bedding an emerging masculinity down. True, and sadly, he's no great moralist: "If some of my mates want to join the NF, that's no business of mine, is it? There's good and bad skinheads" is as far as he will go. (His skinhead friend, Badger, tells a tale of chatting with the policeman who had skins because a pack of them once rescued her from a beating.)

The picture is complicated: there are black skins, and there are non-violent skins. There are also those who would happily kick a stranger to the ground. One of the oddest — Phil from Manor House — is a paddy, pointing 20-year-old with the remains of a Mohican hairdo he only abbreviated to impress the magistrate for an appearance in court. Having nearly everybody in a peculiar sort of way, he is particularly venomous about some passing Orthodox Jews, not taking the Sabbath air near the rockabilly mecca of north London. "I'm Reform, myself," he said. (Confused but not amused, he is deprived: happily unemployed, he spends his days reading biographies and laying his hands on any drugs that are going.) "I just like being stared at it gives me sexual thrill," says this Jewish skinhead.

Of course, the lone Asian walking in an unfrequented street anywhere east of St Paul's cannot tell the inner quality of the skinhead individual or pack advancing toward him. All are equally fearsome.

Certainly, many of the skins are thugs, and like all youngsters in the East End, are wooed by the National Front. John Lindsay, of the Tower Hamlets Anti Nazi League, who has the notorious Brick Lane on his patch, says that the Sunday morning gathering of National Fronters were using skinheads as a 20 per cent component of skinsheds. And they play their part in the disruptions and worse by young



things in Asian businesses and left wing bookshops. Certainly, some do their violent bit on the terraces of football stadia.

Yet they have no coherence of ritual, nor a definite network of command and control. The National Front skins (red laces in their boots) and British Movement skins (white laces) are doubtless kept informed of events, but otherwise skinsheds meet casually or haphazardly at all. Superintendent David Webb of Hammersmith police says that skinheads did not play much of a part in his area's disturbances. "We would have lifted them if they had. Besides, the local community would have topped them". The story is the same at Walthamstow.

Mass skinhead invasions of several towns have been rumoured but have not happened, as at Ipswich where police stopped

vehicles on the A12 on Friday night because of a skinhead mob. A tour of known London National Front pubs shows no skinhead presence, and skins say that when they do start using a pub, the police often come and clear them out. They are most likely to hang out at a street corner, or at a regular rendezvous in shopping centres.

Or they go to hear bands, each of which attracts a different audience according to the fad of the day. It was the Oi music promoted by Gerry Bushell of Sounds magazine which became the centre of a reaction by young Asians in Southall a few weeks back when the provoking presence of skins from East London became too obviously threatening to bear. Rock fans who drifted into Oi gigs reported weeks ago that they were an unpleasant experience. In rock music it is

always hard to see where rhetoric will suddenly be matched by action: but it seems that in this case rock writers were at least dangerously naive. There should have been counter publicity.

Whatever the truth about Oi, one of its nerve centres, and a rallying point for its supporters, is the Last Resort, in Goulston Street, near Fenchurch Lane. There, Mickey French, a 35-year-old ex-barrow boy, runs a skinhead fashion shop. He organized the coaches taking East End skins to Southall: an act it is hard to put down to even brutal innocence. "I'm not interested in their politics," says this chubby, soft-spoken fellow who talks as though the Last Resort were a youth club and he a social worker. "I don't allow paraphernalia in the shop," he says. "We've had a lot of PR," he adds (as though this was

showbusiness), "And it's not been very good."

"These kids have got mums and dads," says Mickey French. "The media have glorified the skinheads," says a police spokesman. "They're just the ordinary football hooligan-type. Not necessarily National Front at all." "Why should the police pick on John?" asks his mum. "Tough?" she asks. "I could thump the daylight out of any of them, and me a woman."

Yet clearly the skinhead image attracts youngsters, and the not so young who are violent and nasty, whether politically organized or not. Perhaps we should say that kids should not dress in a cliché style if they do not want to be treated as the worst of their kind.

Richard North  
The author is Editor of *Vole*.

## I was the father of a teenage werewolf

by Louis Heren

One of the organisers of the recent People's March for Jobs was embarrassed when three punks joined the march. With their brightly dyed hair and leather jackets, they did not look like respectable trade unionists groaning under the Thatcher monetarist yoke, and he obviously thought they would give me, *The Times* man, the wrong idea of the march and its purpose.

He need not have worried. One of the punks, a Geordie with a Mohican haircut who described himself as a disorganised anarchist, was quickly accepted by the older men as a helpful and humorous colleague. I was not misled because one of my daughters, Elizabeth, had been punk, and looking back I had enjoyed the experience.

Not that I was amused when she first came home with her hair spiked and dyed a silver grey. One neighbour seemed to regard her as a teenage werewolf, and I inwardly groaned. Earlier anxieties were recalled when my older children joined the rebellious movements of the early seventies; we had all survived, but I was looking forward to those tranquil years I so richly deserved when it seemed I had another revolt on my hands.

The tension relaxed with the belated realization that she looked even prettier than usual; and Wilfred Hyde White, on a visit from California, positively beamed when I took her to lunch at the Garrick. But then she dyed her hair for a second time, to a flaming pink, and was sent home from school.

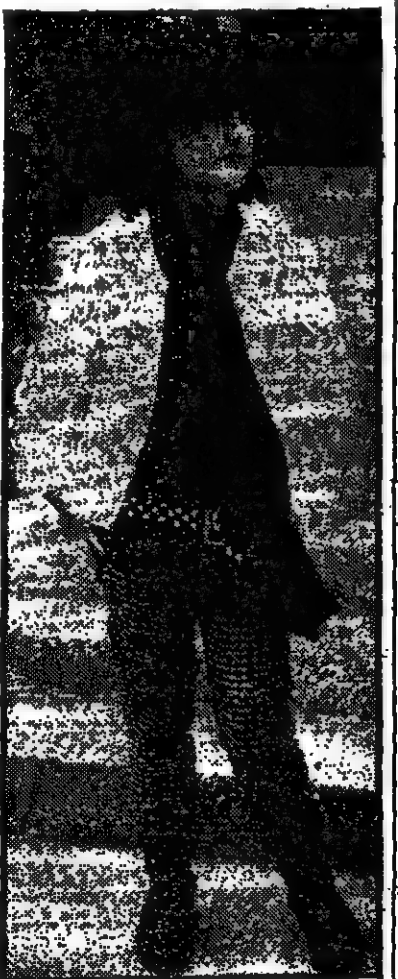
There was only one thing to do if she was not to become a dropout, and fortunately Heren knew our duty with customary stiff upper lip, she had her hair dyed for a third time, to her natural chestnut, and went back to school.

But she remained a punk without war paint for some time, and a few of her friends still are punks. They may still scandalize neighbours, but they are polite and drink only tea, although in vast quantities, and always wash up.

Perhaps I am overly grateful to guests who wash up, but they are also unusually nice to one another. The pessimism of youth emerges when the conversation occasionally turns to topics such as The Bomb, but most of the time they appear genuinely happy.

This suggests to me that punk either attracts or that the music, which is what punk is all about, makes them happy. There seems no way of telling from their family backgrounds. One is the son of a philosopher and another left his working-class home to live in a squat. He has nothing to fall back on except his wits, but he does not have a chip on his shoulder or believe that the world owes him a living.

Perhaps there are punks and punks. The poseurs of the King's Road, Chelsea, with their chains, pins and bondage trousers may be social misfits, although clearly affection explains the dyed hair of the punks I like. Not that



Elizabeth Heren, known as Beamy: grey to flaming pink.

affection of fantasy is confined to youthful cults. Fast cars, for instance, are arguably the fantasy prams for otherwise mature men.

As a cult, punk is the child of the flower children or hippies, most of whom in retrospect were rather dreary. *Make love not war* was doubtless a worthy message, even if it was better said by Christ nearly 2,000 years ago, but their communes were not always loving and drugs must have blighted many young lives. They could speak pretentious nonsense. Punk is simple music, whose only quality perhaps is its unpretentiousness. Punks believe that anybody can strum a guitar and sing, and they do. They may produce fine music — the one of the great pleasures of punks must be the noise — but they enjoy themselves.

They also take it seriously. At one time, my daughter was lead singer and second guitarist in an all-girl group which played a number of gigs, including one at the Spanish anarchists' club. They also spent innumerable hours sound-proofing a rehearsal room in a mews in Camden, which at least gave them some experience in do-it-yourself which will be beneficial when they eventually settle down.

I would say long live punks, except that it is already passing. There will be less noise about the house, for which I should be grateful, but I have a feeling that I shall miss it.

## Figures support the liberal view

There is potential delinquency in most of us. More than a quarter of the male population now have a conviction for some minor offence before they are 25. The proportion of convictions among urban, working-class males is higher still.

Worse, these officially recorded convictions represent less than half the story. Criminologists who confidentially question young people about their law-breaking habits find that most delinquency goes unrecorded. In a criminal sense at least, it is the exceptional few youths who claim in such interviews that they behave in near perfect conformity with the law who are themselves a highly deviant group.

Professor Donald West has for 20 years directed the Cambridge Study in Delinquent Development. The study has followed the careers of 411 boys from Camberwell in London since they were first interviewed in 1961, at the age of eight or nine, until they were 24. By then one-third of them had a conviction record.

In his final report to be published next year, Professor West concludes: "For most youngsters lawbreaking is not a steady occupation, but something that happens sporadically, usually when they are not too busy with their ordinary affairs, when the time and place and company are propitious and a tempting opportunity presents itself. The totality of youthful crime

includes occasional offences by vast numbers of different individuals, as well as repeated offences by a small number of persistent delinquents." The words, written before any of the recent riots, could come from an official report upon them.

Earlier reports on the study made horrifying reading, with transcripts from taped interviews in which aggressive adolescents bragged of smashing bottles in people's faces or "giving them a right hiding" with the aid of knives, coshes, pick-handles, rapers and axes.

One finding was that the survey endorsed, point by point, the establishment view of the delinquent character. Delinquents smoke, gamble and drink more heavily, they are promiscuous, they drive recklessly, are spendthrifts and unlikely to hold a job with prospect.

The contrast in life styles between the delinquent and non-delinquent groups lessened with age, but at the age of 24 the hard-core of trouble-makers who became persistent recidivists still showed as a markedly disfavoured group. The incidence of unemployment among them was three times higher than for others. They were four times more likely to live in sub-standard homes.

Both social workers, examining family backgrounds, and teachers, judging behaviour at school, prove remarkably accurate in predicting which boys will end up in worst trouble. Before they were ten, schoolteachers rated more than a

third of those who were to become persistent recidivists as being "extremely troublesome". The proportion of extremely troublesome boys in the rest of the sample was only one in twenty. More than a fifth of the persisting recidivists were boys whose parents were workers, rated "very poor". The proportion in the rest of the sample was less than one in ten.

Professor West is convinced the study proves that delinquency is related to adversity. "It was the boys from broken homes, rather than those from intact homes, those from poor homes rather than affluent homes, those with unhealthy mothers, rather than those with healthy mothers, and those born illegitimate rather than those born to married parents who were more likely to become juvenile delinquents."

The study also demonstrated a clear relationship between unemployment and criminality, not only when higher rates of unemployment and long term unemployment were found among persisting recidivists at age 24, but also as a predictive factor in childhood. Sons of fathers who had been unemployed were more likely to be unemployed themselves, and were significantly more likely to become delinquents.

Professor West says: "Scarcity of employment aggravates the inequalities of society because it weighs most heavily upon the unskilled and those with an un-

steady work record. The worst affected are those already prone to delinquency. Enforced idleness, shortage of money and isolation from more successful peers can only increase their liability to commit offences."

Professor West is convinced that it is deprivation which produces delinquents, but he does not claim to know how. Clearly it is possible that the ability of teachers, social workers and the police to anticipate trouble from children of deprived or criminal families, or those who affect anti-establishment symbols such as tattoos, avastikas and outlandish styles of hair, dress and ornament, may work as a self-fulfilling prophecy to accentuate their alienation.

There can be no simple solutions, Professor West says, but one thing he is certain will not help is a further increase in punitive incarceration — the sentences that courts are already giving to many of the rioters and looters coming before them. The Cambridge study showed that youths behaved worse, not better, once they had a conviction, worse still if it brought detention. Youths who break the law but get away with it are less likely to offend again.

Robin Young

*Delinquency: Its Roots, Careers and Prospects*, by Professor Donald J. West, will be published by Heinemann Educational Books next year.

The offences		
Boys aged 14 admitting various forms of misbehaviour:		
Percentage admitting:	In a midland town	In London
Riding bicycle without lights after dark	95.1	77
Stealing money from home	21.6	9.4
Taking cars or motorbikes for joyriding	13.7	7.4
Insulting behaviour/steal fighting	58.8	23
Stealing from cars	9.8	8.9
Using weapon in fight	37.3	12.1
Fighting to get away from police	23.5	6.9
Stealing from school	62.8	29.1
Stealing from slot machines, phones	39.2	14.6
Stealing from hanging clothes	15.7	3.5
Vandalism		
The extent of admitted vandalism:		
Sample from London working class area, age 14		
Proportion admitting vandalism in public places		11.9%
Proportion admitting breaking windows in empty houses		68.9%
Home Office survey of northern schoolboys, 11-15		
Proportion admitting damaging car tyres		28%
Breaking empty-house windows		68%
Stealing bus seats		22%

The signs		
	% among non-delinquents	% among delinquents
Tattooed	22.8	4.2
Self-reported aggression	45.5	11.5
Unstable work record	45.5	16
Spends leisure hanging about	21.9	7
Involved in anti-social group	37.6	14.9
Admits drinking and driving	38.6	16
Heavy gambler	37.6	17
Sexually experienced	69.3	32.6
Heavy smoker	43.6	20.8
Had used prohibited drug	48.5	25.3
Anti-establishment attitudes	36.6	21.2

Most of the 11 characteristics were two to three times more prevalent among delinquents.

The life style			
Some Contrasts between Persisting Recidivists, Temporary Recidivists and Non-delinquents when interviewed at Age 24.			
	Percentage of 22 persisting recidivists	Percentage of 22 Temporary recidivists	Percentage of 28 Non-delinquents
More than 8 weeks unemployment in last two years.	59.1	9.1	10.7
Spends over £4 weekly on tobacco	50.0	31.8	3.6
Spends over £20 weekly on alcohol	31.8	18.2	0.0
Home conditions poor	40.9	9.1	10.7
In home owned by self or relatives	0.0	27.3	17.9
Unpaid debts (other than negotiated credit)	54.5	4.5	3.6
Cohabiting	36.4	18.2	7.1
Separated from children (for reasons other than illness)	36.4	9.1	3.6
Uses no contraceptives.	22.7	0.0	0.0
Involved in at least one fight in past two years	59.1	22.7	10.7
Admitted at least two items of self-reported crimes in last two years	36.4	0.0	7.1
At least 3 out of 6 possible points on "antisociality" scale derived from 11 characteristics at age 18	50.0	18.2	0.0

The background		
Adversities identified before the children were ten which appeared predictive of long term recidivism:		
Adverse feature	% among recidivists	% in rest of sample
In lowest ten per cent on IQ	27.8	8.6
Very large family size	41.7	8.9
Large family and low income	41.7	6
Both parents convicted	30.6	3.6
Any one of five key factors double a boy's chances of becoming delinquent:		
Factor	% among delinquents	% in rest of family
Coming from a low income family	33.3	16.7
Coming from large family (2.3)		16
Parents rated unsatisfactory by social workers	32.3	16.2
Below average IQ	31.1	15.9
Parent with criminal record	37.9	14.6

There was a significant overlap between these adversities. The presence of any one made the presence of others more likely. Of 63 boys who suffered at least three of these five predictive factors, almost half became juvenile delinquents, compared with only a fifth from the sample as a whole.

## The children write . . .

Last week a multi-racial class of 13 and 14 year-olds in a South London school were asked to record their views of the street rioting in nearby Brixton. This is a selection from what they wrote.

**Damian: black, aged 13:** During the Brixton Riots, a lot of the views about Margaret Thatcher's Government were brought to light. In Brixton it is high unemployment, racial tension, and bad accommodation in housing. All this is blamed (by the black and white youths) on the Government. But the Government has very authority itself. This has been channelled towards the next step up the ladder from unemployment — people with good houses, and prosperous small businesses.

The police come into it only after they tried intervening in the action which these youths thought they had a right to carry out, and to take what was denied to them by people more fortunate, and more favoured than themselves.

When Thatcher talks about the "thin veneer of human society," she means that at any moment it will rip, and let out the Beast in humans (the word which the veneer was covering). I think that the veneer smother the wood, and once the veneer is ripped, the hate will all be released from between the veneer and the wood, and we will be able to have the wood, without the ugly, smothering veneer.

**Ben: white, aged 13:** After these riots, people realized that if you looted a shop during a riot the penalties would be much less severe than if they were just stealing.

This idea has been realized by a lot of the unemployed younger generation who "need the money". Possibly the only way to prevent this is to have some kind of almost total employment.

One idea would be to try and divide all the manual labour jobs perhaps into half so that twice as many people would be employed but paid half of the wages. To compensate for this the unemployment benefit that previously went to the younger unemployed could also be split between the two parties. This would mean that the most people would have something to work for and something to partly occupy their time.

**Joby: white, aged 14:** My mate decided to see what was happening. He saw Tesco's front completely vandalized and many items missing, eg. Hi-Fi and good electrical equipment. He decided to investigate downstairs, there he found the only item left worth nicking, a Hoover Junior Vacuum cleaner. Deciding that this was the only item worth taking he left Tesco's holding his cleaner. Due to the large amount of police in the area we had to dump it.

To him and us, the riots are putting the country into a situation where something must be done quickly. The country is now in a position of making a decision. What a great situation we're in.

**Primrose: black, aged 13:** My opinion about the riots is that they only start because people don't have enough money and are out of a job. They don't even give the people a chance. That's why there are so many youths all over the place.

They try their best to keep them off the road by building a place which has space invaders and one-arm bands etc. but what's the use of building it if they haven't the money to play the game. They should try building some which you don't have to put money into them. That way they won't have so much trouble.



# The war that neither side can ever win

Richard Owen considers the background of the Israeli-PLO conflict

"The trouble with this man Begin", one senior Western diplomat in the Middle East remarked recently, "is that he believes he has God on his side. The trouble with Arafat", he added, "is that he believes he has History on his side. I'm not sure which is worse."

It is certainly true that Menachem Begin is a man with a mission—the creation of a Greater Israel on biblical lands, and the preservation of such an Israel against all comers. Yasser Arafat has the opposite aim: to remove Israel from the map, and replace it with the lost paradise of Palestine. The one is a mirror image of the other.

The loser is Lebanon, which because of the Palestinian presence has now become the battleground of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Having been hounded out of Jordan in 1970-71, the Palestinians found refuge in Lebanon. They have shown little gratitude to the Lebanese, and have abused the country's sovereignty. But they are protected by Syria, which dominates Lebanese affairs and which has 22,000 troops in Lebanon in the guise of a "peace-keeping force".

The conflict in Lebanon has been brought to a head partly by Mr Begin's re-emergence as a political force in Israel. The fact that the Israeli electorate gave him enough support to enable him to form a new coalition evidently means that Israel's pre-election mood of belligerence is to be sustained, at least for the time being. In his autobiography, *The Revolt*, Mr Begin wrote: "Our enemies are many—our friends are few. If we learn and remember, we shall overcome all our enemies. They will never succeed in enslaving us again."

Israelis are receptive to rhetoric of this kind and are ready to believe that, since the world is against them, they must rely on their own



Begin and Arafat, leaders in a bitter struggle of attrition. The PLO can never hope to wear down the Israelis. Equally, for all its superior firepower, Israel will never be able to eliminate the PLO. That is the true tragedy of Palestine.



strength, using it to pre-empt any possible threat. This is the mood which lay behind the confrontation with Syria over the anti-aircraft missiles in the Bekaa Valley: the raid on Iraq's nuclear installation; and now the attempt to obliterate the Palestinians in Lebanon.

The reverse side of the coin is that the PLO, which in 1974 secured Arab support for its claim to represent the Palestinian people, has since become a military force to be reckoned with. PLO claims are to be taken with a pinch of salt, and propaganda boasts of "victories"—in "battles" are often inflated accounts of minor skirmishes. But talk of an Israeli-Palestinian war is not necessarily too wide of the mark. Thirty-three years after the Arab defeat in Palestine, the PLO is able to cause the Israelis enough trouble to provoke the massive onslaught of the past week.

Neither side can in fact win. The PLO can never hope to wear the Israelis down, let alone achieve even a partial military victory.

Equally, Israel, for all its superior firepower, will never be able to eliminate the PLO, however many Palestinian bases it hits. On the contrary, Israeli strikes, while destructive in the short term, only gain the PLO more recruits from among the young generation of Palestinians born in exile, who with the bitter passion of the refugee dream of returning to a land which in reality has changed out of all recognition.

That is the true tragedy of Palestine. Even if the Israelis were to occupy the whole of southern Lebanon, as some believe they might, the battleground would merely shift a little, and the Palestinians would continue to fight for a country which has long since ceased to be.

The result seems certain to be a drawn out and unwinnable war of attrition. The only way to avoid such an outcome is to return to the slow and painful business of trying to construct a formula for peace. Only a year ago, the atmosphere was relatively optimistic. Camp David had secured peace for Israel on its front with Egypt.

Although most Arab states rejected Camp David, the Arab world was divided into "moderates" and "radicals", with the moderates such as Saudi Arabia and Jordan much more amenable to Western proposals. The EEC Venice Declaration sought to bridge the gap between Camp David and the Arab cause by acknowledging the right of the Palestinians to self-determination. The European powers also tried to involve the PLO in talks on the future of the West Bank, on the (unstated) assumption that once drawn into the details of practical peace making, the PLO might move away from its maximalist position.

A year on, the European initiative is in tatters, peppered by broadsides from all sides. The PLO, far from softening its public utterances, has talked wildly of the destruction of Israel, with ambiguous remarks about a possible accommodation with the Jewish state lamentably few and far between. The Begin Government, for its part, has kept up a barrage

of hostility towards anything which smacks of treating with the devil.

The Reagan Administration, having failed to offer even token support for the Europeans' efforts, has yet to come up—after six months in office—with anything beyond a restatement of faith in the Camp David formula of autonomy, which has so far got nowhere and has even less chance of going anywhere as long as the Israelis and Palestinians are pounding each other.

This leaves the Middle East in a state of dangerous tension, with few channels of communication left open. Even Jordan has turned its face firmly against any move towards an Israel-Jordanian condominium of the West Bank, leading to Palestinian self-rule. In the present atmosphere of confrontation, Jordan could scarcely even hint at such a possibility even if it wanted to.

Saudi Arabia, too, has hardened its position. The Saudi offer of \$40m in aid to the PLO is a measure of the extent to which even the most conservative Arab

states feel it necessary to line up behind the PLO. This is in addition to the military aid provided by Libya and Syria, both of which have offered to move more heavy weapons, including anti-aircraft missiles, into Beirut to give protection against "Zionist aggression". Behind all these manoeuvres lies the ever-present danger of another Arab oil embargo in the event of a showdown in which the Western powers feel obliged to back Israel.

The main lesson for the West must be that Arab leaders, whatever their differences, are sincere when they say that the Palestinian question is the most pressing problem the Middle East faces. It is a profound mistake to try, as the Reagan Administration has tried, to persuade the Arab world that the Soviet threat to the Gulf is more important. Little love is lost between the Arabs and the Russians, and most Arab states—including Syria, which is nominally a Soviet client—would almost certainly prefer to see a Middle East which is peaceful and neutral but closely linked to Europe and America.

This means, or could mean, a Middle East in which a Palestinian state co-exists with Israel, with Western guarantees of security for both sides. But continued support by the United States for an ill-considered and visionary Begin can only increase anti-Western feeling on the Arab side and encourage the wild men of the Arab world. This is a recipe for the kind of fight to the finish which both Mr Begin and Mr Arafat seem to regard as unavoidable, and which they both seem to want to bring about.

If this were to happen, with the inevitability of a self-fulfilling prophecy, the battleground would not only be hapless Lebanon but the wider Middle East, with Israel and the Arab states sucked into the fifth and probably most damaging in a series of disastrous wars.

## Henry Fairlie Agnes's rough relations, still storming in

Washington  
The sceptical English observer who, as some readers may have noticed, strolls through these columns, never lost for a keen observation, rarely gets hot under the collar. But this week he lost his cool.

"All this talk of a long, hot summer at home, sir," he expostulated, "when it's always a long, hot summer in this hole." He remembers when British diplomats in Washington were paid hardship money for serving in the tropics.

The temperature was climbing towards 100 deg F. The humidity was said, optimistically, to be only 85 per cent. Either a temperature inversion or some other form of stagnation was keeping the stale air at that level, he said, and two friends of his had recently gone back to England and had already complained of two days of high humidity there. This had been too much for him: "By quantity they mean, sir, a little early morning dew."

American weather is not a conversation piece. Somewhere each day it murders man, woman or child; somewhere it scorchers the earth, if not with drought and the plagues which then with searing blizzards.

Since the land lies south and south between the tropics and the snows, as Emerson puts it, one extremity is bitten by frost while another is burned by the sun. The weather is always violent somewhere in America. There used to be a dour school of thought, to which serious scholars like the late Sir Ernest Barker gave their names, which said that national character could be explained by the climate. The Northerners were bristly, Latin peoples were leaguerous. One is not proposing any such explanation when one wonders about the effect of their climate on the lives and characters of the American people.

In a few hours on April 3-4, 1974, 148 separate tornadoes raked across 13 states, the largest number in American history. Some were among the most powerful ever seen. They left behind them 315 dead and 6,142 injured. Four years later, a tornado struck near Birmingham, Alabama, killing 22 people. On the same day in Georgia, an airliner crashed when its engines "drowned".

Although one has observed a few signs of that weather, anyone who drives across the country is astounded by its ingenuity and variety and productivity. Yet he will also, at any season, run into the devastation which has been caused that year by some turn of the weather. The weather is not just a nuisance, it is a force to be reckoned with.

It is easy to forget how recently most of this country was ploughed from the wilderness, even where the weather is stretching out of sight and to the huge prairies with their patterns of crops like inland woods. It is also easy to forget that even now it must all be tenaciously preserved in a country where, disaster may strike.

To remember the extremes of climate also helps to remind one that, although federal aid may be needed to cope with the worst disasters, the rest depend on the states and localities. This country often seems to outsiders to be ludicrously disorganized. But there are not many countries where so many areas must be self-sufficient.

The long, hot summer is a nuisance, alas, in Washington. But somewhere across the country a hurricane or a blizzard is forming, wreaking havoc and forming the character, if not of the people, at least of their institutions.

places, 15in of rain fell. Rock Creek Park, which winds through the centre of Washington like a pleasant stream, was a furious river. In a few days, Agnes killed 117 people and caused \$3,000m damage. It was the costliest natural disaster in the country's history.

Then there are the flash floods, causing an average of 200 deaths a year. Fifteen thousand areas in the United States are designated as likely to have flash floods in any year. In the big Thompson Canyon in the Rockies, Colorado, which one had known well for several years and only recently left, a foot of rain fell in a few hours on the evening of July 31, 1976, and in the almost simultaneous floods, 137 people were killed.

The hail is no joke. The loss in crops each year totals an average of \$773m. On September 3, 1970, the hailstones in Coffeyville, Kansas, were 1 1/2 in diameter. In June 1978, interstate Route 225, through New Mexico, was covered by six inches of hail, which had to be cleared by snowploughs. The stories of hail usually sound frivoli, but they are a fearful scourge to farmers and fruit growers.

Of the blizzards which in winter rage across the East, Midwest and Mountain West, those in 1977 and 1978 outdid all others in the record books in their sustained and repeated ferocity and the long-lasting cold. The city of Buffalo, New York, had 17 ft of snow in 1977. The wind chill took the temperature down to 60 degrees below zero. No one can truly count the lives lost and the damage done. All the examples given here are from one person's recent memory and could be multiplied. As for the impact of such extremes on the life of the nation, one need point only to the migration from the "frost belt" to the "sun belt", which has significantly increased since the 1977 and 1978 winters. Many of the migrants say those winters helped to move them south.

### Need to guard against disaster

There are other things to say. American agriculture is a wonder of the modern world. It feeds much of the world. Anyone who drives across the country is astounded by its ingenuity and variety and productivity. Yet he will also, at any season, run into the devastation which has been caused that year by some turn of the weather. The weather is not just a nuisance, it is a force to be reckoned with.

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## Jobs: Why Britain's home-made record is worst

As unemployment soars to 2,852,000, the Government explains it is for the good of the cause—the price the nation must pay for our economic recovery. For comfort we are told we are not alone; we are victims of a world recession. It is strange, however, that in seeking consolation in the misfortunes of others, but it is true that what is happening to the British economy is the result of what is happening in the world? Are other countries experiencing unemployment on the scale we are?

The performance of the British economy over the past two years has been by a long way the worst of all the leading industrial nations. The OECD estimates the following changes in gross national product in real terms between 1979 and 1981:

Japan	+7.7%
Italy	+3.2%
Canada	+2.5%
United States	+2.3%
France	+0.8%
Germany	+0.3%
United Kingdom	-3.3%

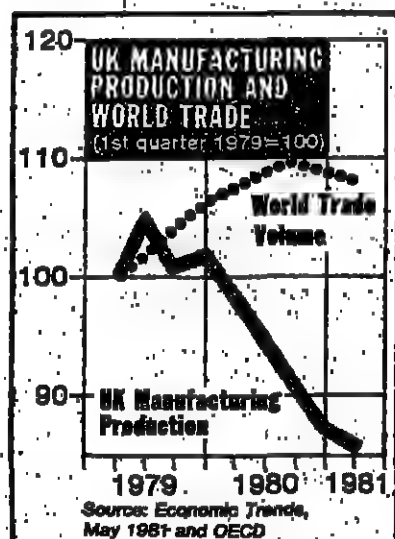
The component of gnp most vulnerable to world recession is manufacturing production. Here, sadly, the record is even worse. The first diagram shows how United Kingdom manufacturing has changed in the past two years and for comparison

the change in the volume of world trade. Manufacturing production was at a peak in the second quarter of 1979, since when it has fallen by 18 per cent.

If the world recession had been to blame for this dramatic decline through its impact on British exports, we would expect to see world trade falling at about the same time, and to at least the same extent, as United Kingdom manufacturing.

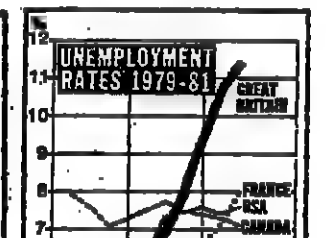
We find that nothing of the sort has occurred. World trade peaked late in 1980—more than a year after United Kingdom manufacturing had fallen by the same period the manufacturing output fell by 18 per cent, the volume of world trade did not fall at all but increased by 6.5 per cent. To make matters worse, it should be remembered that all our competitors suffered severe balance-of-payments shocks from the 1979-80 oil price rises while energy-rich Britain escaped virtually scot-free.

Thus, Britain's recent economic performance has been markedly worse than other countries. It is also true of our unemployment record. In order to make international comparisons it is necessary to use standardized definitions: here the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics estimates are used which include, for



example, unemployed school-leavers and the unemployed who have not registered. The second diagram shows the behaviour of unemployment in Britain and the other major OECD countries since 1979.

At the end of 1979, unemployment in Britain stood at 5.8 per cent of the labour force, which was below the upper end of the international range—slightly lower than in the United States, Canada and France, but much higher than in Germany, Italy and Japan.



Since then, British unemployment has surged to a level far in excess of that in any other country. The standardized British unemployment rate of 11.5 per cent in May, 1981, represented a virtual doubling of the rate since the end of 1979. In none of the other countries did the unemployment rate increase by more than half.

In the 1974-75 recession, increases in British unemployment were exacerbated by the growth of the total labour force (which includes both

employed and unemployed). In the last two years the rise in British unemployment has to some extent been assuaged by a slight fall in the total labour force; the number employed has fallen even more than registered unemployment has risen. These changes in the labour force offer no justification for the rise in unemployment.

Nor can higher unemployment be attributed to increases in social security benefits (which monetarists claim are discouraging people from finding work). The opposite is the case. The reduction in the real value of unemployment benefits and the phasing out of the earnings-related supplement (which is due to be eliminated at the end of this year) mean that for most of the unemployed the proportion of income from social security has fallen over the last two years.

The explanation for our unemployment lies squarely with the acute deficiency of demand, which has developed since 1979, exacerbated by the damage done to our competitiveness by the combination of high pay settlements and an appreciating currency. While wages may now be starting to level out—though few would predict this with much confidence—in terms of unemployment worse is yet to come. The OECD are forecasting an

increase in the rate from 10 per cent to 12 per cent from the first half of this year to the second half of next year (on the United Kingdom national definition—about 1 per cent below the standardized definition used above). This represents another half a million unemployed people. This increase forecast for the United Kingdom is, again, larger than the increase forecast for any of the other major countries.

It is depressing to record, and no doubt to read, this sorry tale. But all the facts point to our being, in terms of severity of unemployment, alone among the major nations. Our domestic recession bears one clear hall-mark: Made in Britain.

The Prime Minister in the debate on unemployment one month ago said: "There is nothing inevitable about high unemployment." Yes, the Government's response sometimes appears to be little more than macro-economic micromanagement, hoping something, such as the economy, turns up. Such a passive stance cannot be justified on the grounds that we and other countries are all in the same boat.

Gavyn Davies and David Pichaud  
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### Will London lose The Connoisseur?

The *Connoisseur*, the monthly fine arts magazine which has been published in London since 1901, may move its editorial base to New York. But it depends on who you talk to.

Reports have surfaced in New York that Thomas Hoving, former director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art and more recently a television presenter, has been approached by the Hearst Corporation, the magazine's owners since 1927, about an editing job. What else could it be, say the New York gossips, but *Connoisseur*?

The present editor, Paul Attbury was somewhat cagey when I spoke to him at his London office yesterday, but he did say there would be a "basic logic" to such a move, which he thought quite likely, since the main circulation and market is in America. He confirmed that he was in New York last week discussing the issue (among others). His own position had not been discussed.

Cagey as he was, he was more forthcoming than Marvin Sleeper, Hearst's press officer in New York. "It's all a dastardly rumour", he said. "There are no plans to move *Connoisseur* to New York or anywhere else."

In Bond Street, has arranged for photographs of The Dress to be whizzed out to its dressmaker, who will weave a silvery simulacrum. The platinum ensemble will surely be a shade uncomfortable and is likely to cost £100,000 to make. If you're thinking of buying one, the real problem is that although platinum is an attractive metal, resistant to corrosion and with a high melting point, it does dissolve readily in one substance: aqua regia.

### Don't bank on it

In a move which has raised many eyebrows in Whitehall, the Prime Minister has invited Mr Edward Heath to the Government's official lunch for visiting heads of state and government at the Bank of England immediately after the royal wedding.

Mr Heath has been to a number of receptions at No 10 since Margaret Thatcher came to power, but this is the first time he has been invited to an official luncheon. He is believed to be "somewhat surprised" (not to say flattered). Other former prime ministers are being invited, but there will inevitably be speculation about whether Mr Heath's presence indicates the possibility of yet another reconciliation with Mrs Thatcher.

### Top loungers

If you have ever wondered, as I often have, who exactly is a VIP (apart from Times readers, of course), read on—as quickly as Concord. The House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee published yesterday as its "Annex C" a list of persons eligible for VIP status at Heathrow and Gatwick. I regret to say I am not included. Permanent secretaries may use these lounges (there are five at

## THE TIMES DIARY

A cross-Channel swim with a difference. The Channel 4 television series, *The Channel 4*, will start next month when 25-year-old American twins James and Jonathan Bidonato, swim to make the crossing together, using the exhaust crossing butterfly stroke. They took up swimming after being inspired by the success of Mark Spitz in the 1972 Olympics.

Heathrow and two at Gatwick—lounges I mean, not Perm Secs). Her Majesty's ministers are allowed in, and so is the Speaker of the House of Commons, but not common-or-garden MPs. The Lord Mayor of London is in, as is the chairman of the GLC (new-lower Mr Ken Livingstone will no doubt detest such favouritism). The chairman of Surrey County Council and the mayors of Hillingdon, Hounslow and Richmond Spelthorne also scrape under the wire.

The lounges, the Commons committee discovered, cost more than £2,000 a day to run, and it wants a serious scrutiny to be made. Not that MPs want to incur resentment abroad by making unnecessary cuts; nor would it be right to admit a VIP and leave his several wives on the tarmac, as one member conceded.

The crucial point about the list is the all-important distinction it makes between those who do, and do not, have to pay to get in. The Royal Family, the PM, former PMs, the Speaker, leaders of political parties (where that leaves the SDP I do not know), the Archbishops of

Canterbury and Westminster and the Chief Rabbi, together with the various chairpersons already mentioned, are the only people, it appears, who do not have to dip into their pockets.

It is nice to know that when those self-satisfied pop singers and ditty girls from Hollywood zap in and out they are not drinking themselves silly at our expense. When I leave for my vacation in Long Island next month I shall feel more content among the queues, the plastic bags and the stiff sandwiches in Terminal 3.

### Spartan Sinbad

An emaciated Tim Severin breezed into London yesterday after completing his epic eight-month voyage from Oman to China in the wake of the legendary explorer Sinbad the Sailor. The first thing he did was take his first fresh-water bath of the year and pour himself a large claret. Severin's 6,000-mile voyage in the *Sohar*, a wooden replica of an ancient Arab sailing ship held together by coconut rope, was sponsored by the Government

What's exactly wrong, professor, with living in the inner city?



of Oman, so there was not a drop of alcohol on board.

Following the main direction and ports of call mentioned in the early Arabic texts, Severin and his crew of 25-Omani sailors, British photographers and scientists—covered the route of Arab traders from Muscat to Canton, via India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia and Sumatra.

Stinks at school, that H'S smells like eggs a little long in the tooth. The worst part of the voyage, however, was not in the doldrums in the Indian Ocean, but in the supplies of food and fresh water threatened to give out. This was solved by eating barbecued shark (driedwood provided the charcoal) and catching rainwater. Dates—the Omanis provided one and a half tons—usually followed the main course.

Severin will write a book about the Sinbad voyage during the next few months. He says he has no plans for follow-up, but his eyes gleamed when he spoke of the excitement of inspecting a Chinese junk at Canton.

### Prague-on-Tees?

David Puttnam, producer of *Chariots of Fire* and *Bugsy Malone*, is to make a film about the 1968 Prague Spring and its suppression. Called *The October Circle*, it is based on a book by Robert Littell, who was a newsweek correspondent in Eastern Europe at the time.

Robert Bolt (*Lawrence of Arabia*, *A Man for All Seasons*) is writing the script and the film will be directed by Hugh Hudson, who directed *Chariots of Fire*. Casting has not yet been decided.

Puttnam tells me the film will not be specifically about the events in Czechoslovakia but their effect on a father and son living in another Soviet block country. It will be shot mainly in northern England.

### Edna's cantata

Dame Edna Everage, wife, mother and superstar, has a number of stage firsts to her remarkable career. She was, for instance, the first man, playing a woman, to kiss a prime minister on stage: she was the first person on the boards to

be a cross between Max Miller and Mary Whitehouse: she was the first person to wear rhinestone specs in *Tootie*. Now, for the first time, she is to become the first transvestite housewife to sing in the Albert Hall with the London Symphony Orchestra.

The orchestra have my sympathy, but it seems they are looking forward to it. The last night of the Proms, starring the dame, in new dresses, new specs, even an encore dress made by Midge of Melbourne, takes place on September 14 and 15 (two nights after the Proms end), when the dame will assume the title of "Supper Proms".

Barry Humphries, who I gather has something to do with the proceedings, has written the words for a cantata, featuring the dame and the Ambrosian singers, renamed for the occasion the New Ambrosian Singers. Carl Davis (who won the BAFSA award for best theme tunes to programmes like *Hollywod* and *Oppenheimer*) has written the music and insisted on singing most of the loud bits to me yesterday over the phone.

It would appear from this that the dame has a virulent dose of Clive Jamesitis which affects all her rhyming compatriots. "Why do I love Australia", for instance, begins:

"It has always been a mystery profound, Why Australia took such a long time to be found."

The choir goes on: "Why do we love Australia? Why does it haunt us still? There's nobody we know there, And it costs so much to go there, And the chances are we never will."

With rhymes like that, Edna, you can see why not.

Peter Watson

صكز امت الاصل





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## INVEST MORE IN PEOPLE

Another large increase in the unemployment figures, another small decrease in the rate of growth, if school-leavers are disregarded. But these are the months of the year when the new influx of former pupils on to the labour market is at its greatest, and school leavers are hardest to disregard. About a fifth of all the unemployed are under 19, and last January a fifth of all those under 19 were on the unemployment register.

The Government is responding with further moves to expand the youth opportunities programme, which has already trebled in size since it began three years ago. But the programme remains open to the criticism that it is essentially a palliative device to keep school leavers off the register. For most of them, it merely delays for a few months the moment when they have to sign on, and leaves them scarcely better equipped to find work than they were before.

In the aftermath of Brixton and Toxteth it is natural to look at youth unemployment in the context of the deep frustration and alienation that the riots expressed. But it is wrong to make too simple an identification between the two issues. The rioters' resentment at lack of opportunity must have been directed also at the narrowness and limited prospects of any work that might be available to them. And though it is usually the young who are most apt to break windows and throw stones, there is some reason to think that the humiliation of being without work is more often keenly felt by workers who are older, and more likely

to have family responsibilities. Moreover, many of those people charged after the rioting were shown to be in work.

The chief reason why it is right to be especially concerned about unemployment among the young is not that they are the age-group most easily made actively disaffected, nor that it makes the unemployment figures politically embarrassing. It is that the waste of their potential skills reinforces the cycle of low productive capacity and low rewards which holds the British economy back. The youngsters kicking their heels on the street today will be in the labour force or on the unemployment register until the 2020s, and it is an elementary matter of investment in human resources to get them usefully trained.

Forty per cent of Britons receive no formal vocational training after they leave school. That is one of the most obvious differences between Britain and other countries whose economies have performed consistently better than ours over the years. It is a problem that goes back far beyond the beginning of the present bout of unemployment. Its existence is generally acknowledged, but too often as a matter of form only. Vested interests on both sides of industry resist the introduction of effective training schemes, on grounds of expense, or out of fear that the young will be used as cheap labour to displace older workers. There is evidence that this has sometimes been the case, as it easily can be where schemes of training are informal and vague. A whole string of motions put down for this

year's Labour Party conference demand that every school leaver should be offered as of right a job on full union pay rates and conditions. That stipulation would rule out any significant training at work, even existing apprenticeship schemes.

Apprenticeship in Britain is in any case almost moribund. This year perhaps one school leaver in six will enter a job offering apprenticeship or similar training. It is only available in a limited number of industries, and its form is often rigid and outdated, taking too little account of the new need for re-training throughout one's career, and ritualistically based more on time served than on skills acquired. These factors, combined with the fact that apprentices earn almost as much as qualified workers, make many managers cynical about the system.

In West Germany about half of all school leavers continue with regular, part-time educational work. The content of the courses is determined at national level, though their operation is left to local businesses. Employers are aware of their own interest in fostering skills in the work force of the future: unions, confident that the well-defined schemes prevent any risk of undercutting of pay, are ready to negotiate pay rates for apprentices relatively much lower than those in Britain. Mr Prior's promised study of industrial training should concentrate on examples such as these, and seek to disarm the prejudices on both sides of industry which prevent us from investing more effectively in our young people.

## STIMULATING THE PULSE OF COMPETITION

Our telecommunications industry is slowly edging towards efficiency, or at least towards an institutional climate in which efficiency might develop. The British Telecommunications Bill is about to receive the royal assent. The powers provided under that Bill for the Secretary of State to license private competition with the nationalized British Telecom are also under active consideration by the Cabinet. In particular, a decision is awaited on whether to allow the Cable and Wireless consortium a licence to operate an additional network primarily geared towards business users.

Some of the matters involved in this latter decision are of a technical complexity which will certainly baffle Ministers as much as civil servants and commentators. There are, however, some basic issues which concern the public interest. At root is our wide and sad experience which shows that monopoly is bad for us — in the long run bad for all of us, though it may prove comfortable in the short run for those managing and working in the monopoly.

If the new British Telecom has started life with an inheritance of over-manning, over-pricing, out-dated technology and a dissatisfied public, that is primarily because of its monopoly origins. Many past Governments share the blame, particularly in their readiness to cut capital investment. But the main responsibility

lies with the absence of competitive pressures which gives birth to the attitude that the convenience of the producer comes before that of the consumer.

The present Government was elected on a commitment to correct this slackness in the public monopolies. Licensing a small alternative telecommunications network now would be a desirable move in that direction. Cable and Wireless also claim that their proposals involve more advanced technology than that operated by British Telecom. They would give to British industry the stimulus and the home market to manufacture fibre optic cable, and to our services the most modern telecommunications infrastructure.

The business sector which private enterprise seeks to share is lucrative and at present, according to British Telecom, subsidizes other services to the general public. The ordinary citizen on his private line or in a street call box would therefore be the one who pays the higher price. The Government may wish to cushion such unintended victims. But it should not be forgotten that only a monopoly can choose to claw back lost profits from its weakest customers — rather than, for instance, from greater productivity.

British Telecom has shown some encouraging signs of life recently, planning to market a wider range of services. For its own good, it should not fight to retain its monopoly

but should openly welcome future competition. It should also turn the free market arguments on the Government in relation to its own capital requirements.

The recent Beesley report recommending liberalization of the networks argued convincingly and consistently that British Telecom should be able to go freely to the commercial markets to raise the finance for investments in new technology. The Treasury has not so far allowed this because of the PSBR implications. It would surely be in the national interest, and consistent with the Government's underlying philosophy, to encourage British Telecom to raise the money for profitable projects. That is quite different from public spending on pay or bureaucracy.

The Government should also encourage British Telecom, as it is empowered under the new Bill, to diversify and set up subsidiaries operating in the rapidly expanding field of communications technology. But it should also always ensure that the discipline of competing services is operating as well. It is not the ideology of ownership, the weary political arguments that public or private is better than the other, which concerns people. The public wants an efficient and cheap service. British Telecom does not yet, but could, offer that. The Government should help it to do so by offering it the resources for investment and the stimulus of competition.

## THE TEST OF QUALITY

What are the qualities of a great Test match? Few of the thousands who were there yesterday and on Monday, or the millions more who watched the play on television, will deny that Headingley 1981 deserves to be inscribed on that roll of honour. It had drama, it had heroes. It will live in the memory.

It cannot, however, be regarded as the greatest of all Tests because there have been others which were even closer, where the fluctuations of fortune were more frequent if not more remarkable, and in which a higher level of skill was on display throughout. Few matches could have been closer than the first Test during the MCC tour of South Africa in 1948-49, which was won by two wickets off the last ball of the match from a leg-break off Cliff Gladwin's thigh — with Alec Bedser, now England's chairman of selectors, the batsman at the other end.

Lord's 1963 would be hard to beat. That was the occasion when England drew with the West Indies, six runs short of victory with the last English pair at the wicket — one of them, Colin Cowdrey, with his arm in plaster, fortunately not having to face a ball in those

last dramatic overs. That was a match which certainly had its heroes: Ted Dexter, assaulting the West Indian fast bowlers, Hall and Griffith, for 70 flamboyant runs during England's first innings; Brian Close, heroically charging down the wicket to those same bowlers while also scoring 70 in the second innings; and Wes Hall himself bowling with unflinching hostility during that final Tuesday afternoon. Throughout the five days fortunes swung to and fro repeatedly, and the technical quality of the cricket was of the highest standard.

For a match that had everything the first Test of the series at Brisbane in 1960 between the West Indies and Australia must surely be unsurpassed. A tie off the last ball of the match, one of the greatest Test centuries by Garfield Sobers, and a memorable series to come — who could ask for more than that? Only those who judge a cricket match simply in terms of victory and defeat. For Englishmen no victory was sweeter than the one which recovered the Ashes for the first time for nearly twenty years at the Oval in 1953. That was memorable, but the victory was ultimately achieved too comfortably for the match

itself to be considered a great one.

Perhaps the supreme criterion by which to judge a great match is whether it passes into cricketing folklore. That honour belongs more than any other to the Oval Test of 1902: Jessop's Test match when, at the end of a disastrous summer, England defeated Australia by one wicket. Few cricket enthusiasts today can have any idea of the level of skill generally displayed in that match. But more than three-quarters of a century later it is still possible to respond to the drama of England's recovery, with Jessop's daring century and the last-wicket stand between the Yorkshiremen, Hirst and Rhodes, when they scored the final fifteen runs in singles.

For the drama of their recovery England's performance at Headingley this week may even compare with that. A great Test match must appeal to the child in all of us. We need heroes; we need suspense; and we need the sudden joyous satisfaction of enjoying a prize that we had thought far beyond our grasp. It is because they provided all of these that Ian Botham and Bob Willis have brought a little sunshine far beyond the city of Leeds.

## Cervical cancer reminder schemes

From the Joint Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Department of Health and Social Security. Sir, Your story about changes in the arrangements for a cervical cancer screening scheme, which will cut away cancer in cancer testing, July 20) completely underestimates the commitment of health ministers to preventive health programmes which include the cervical cytology programme. This was clearly stated when we issued a consultative paper about a new recall scheme issued in April of this year.

There is general agreement that a new recall scheme is required. An expert working party advised the department that the existing scheme was labour-intensive, near its technical limits, isolated from other screening developments, and did not generate useful information about its own effectiveness. In short, the conclusion was that the present scheme was ineffective and inefficient.

We are now studying the committee which the consultative paper has generated and, as we pointed out in April, we want the present scheme to be replaced by arrangements made by individual general practitioners for their own patients or local arrangements by health authorities or family practitioner committees to ensure that as many women as possible are regularly reminded of the vital importance of cervical smear tests.

There is a national campaign to encourage as many women as possible in the priority groups to come forward for screening, and to remind women who have been tested of the need for follow-up tests at regular intervals.

Yours sincerely, GEORGE YOUNG, Minister of Health and Social Security, Alexander Fleming House, Elephant and Castle, SE1, July 21.

## Belvoir coalfield

From Mr A. P. Woolrich. Sir, Nature is a great healer, and the Duke of Rutland (July 8) will find, if he visits the old industrial areas of Britain, that sites very quickly revert back to nature. The Bristol coalfield, for example, now has very little evidence to show, and the same is true of the Forest of Dean coalfield, both of which were worked with little attention to the environmental problems they caused.

According to the press reports the National Coal Board have repeatedly stated that the proposed Belvoir field will be worked to the highest environmental standards, and this has to be accepted. It would not be in the interests of themselves or the miners they employ to operate otherwise.

The kind of landscape to be found in the Vale of Belvoir is not natural, but is the result of farming practices developed since the enclosures. It is not unreasonable to assume that once the mines are worked out and the pits are returned to farming the landscape will revert to its present state, and future generations will have little reason to be disturbed by what was done.

Yours sincerely, A. P. WOOLRICH, Canal Side, Rutworth, Rutland, Leicestershire.

## Remanding prisoners

From Mr Gershon Ellenbogen. Sir, As it is proposed that subsequent remand hearings may take place in the prisoner's absence only if he agrees, and as his legal representative, whom he must have, will obviously make it his business to attend if it is desired to make an application for bail or for any other purpose, it is difficult to follow the objection raised by the Howard League for Penal Reform (July 18) to legislation which, in addition to relieving the burden on police and prisons, will save time and expense in magistrates' courts. I am, etc., GERSHON ELLENBOGEN, 2 Gray's Inn Square, London WC1, July 20.

## Parochial charities

From Sir Charles Kimber. Sir, I write, like the Reverend J. D. Johns (July 6), to support Miss Janet Fookes and Lady Faithfull in their plea (July 2) for government action on parish charities for the poor.

Between 1967 and 1977 I reviewed over 400 such charities in this country. The review was one of dozens conducted by local authorities all over the country under the Charities Act of 1960. Most needed new trust deeds to remove archaic conditions restricting the use of the money to purposes which were no longer suitable and effective; most needed their endowments reinvested. Laboriously and expensively this was done; yet in its main purpose of putting the money to good use the review was an almost total failure.

As soon as one put the figures together the reason was plain and so, too, was the remedy. Mr Johns's four little charities, separately available in three parishes and worth in total £15 a year, typical of the very large majority. If at present the trustees of parish charities "do not take their duties seriously", as Mr Brooke relates (July 6), who can blame them when they can now only provide peanuts with money which used to buy tons of coal? The figures showed, however, that there is a small minority of

## Warrington's message for democracy?

From Mr J. R. Rathbone, MP for Leamington (Conservative) and Sir Nigel Fisher, MP for Kingston upon Thames (Conservative). Sir, The Warrington by-election result is generally argued as being a plague on both Government and Opposition and an expression of frustration from an electorate where a much respected MP, these reasons are essentially negative, following the established thesis that in most elections parties and candidates are voted out not by their merits but by their faults. This principle cannot be applied to by-elections.

So what were the SDP offering positively to obtain the showing they did? A well-known candidate, of course, but by all prior analysis not ideally suited to Warrington. Interest in a new party, probably, but its novelty meant no organization on the ground. An economic policy to solve Warrington's unemployment was a social policy to reduce tension and unrest, certainly not the SDP platform was an unremarkable amalgam of Labour and Liberal policies such as anyone would expect from a left-wing party.

It appears as if, looking across the political divide, that the one thing which so many of the voters of Warrington voted for was SDP commitment to the introduction of more proportionate elections to the House of Commons, which would protect them from the extremes of socialism of the far left or of national socialism of the far right for evermore.

The potential to commit, measured by every single opinion poll recently, and the readiness to commit as shown by votes for the SDP in this by-election, has even greater importance for the Conservative Party than the SDP. Because, if we wish generally to preserve from future socialist reversal the radical and long overdue changes in our economy and our society which our Conservative Government has set itself to achieve, then it is imperative that our method of electing future governments must be changed to reflect more closely the essential good sense of the British electorate and its natural desire to conserve national unity and purpose which is in almost every one of us.

This is not to claim that electoral reform offers a panacea for our national problems; it does not. But we do believe that a more proportionate Parliament would be likely to bridge the widening gap between north and south, large city centres and other

## Civil Service pensions

From Mr Roy Cattran. Sir, On June 29 you reported the MP for Croydon South as saying, in proposing legislation to end index-linking of pensions, "it is ridiculous to endeavour to limit all civil servants to the economic recession".

Whatever that means — and recession or no, conspicuous spending remains a feature of the business world, not the public service — one can agree it would be wrong to maintain the standard of living of public service pensioners unchanged if other people's living standards have to fall. But surely it is also true that public servants have earned their pensions, and to pay them in debased currency is to cheat them. They are entitled to maintain their share of the goods and services being enjoyed by the nation as a whole.

The index-linking controversy is bedevilled by the fact that the wrong index is being used at present. It may well be that future standards of living, and hence pension levels, will be considerably lower than at present; continued use of the cost-of-living index for pay or pension purposes will become obviously absurd in that event.

## Prayer and fasting

From Mr B. D. S. Lock. Sir, Why is it that with unemployment nearing three million, British Rail regularly cancels buffet cars, allegedly for lack of staff? Last Saturday I went from London to Cheltenham for a wedding. In each direction, although the trains were long-distance trains, the buffet car was cancelled. There was no chance of having a meal before I went into the church and, as I sat under an

inscription of the Ten Commandments, I could not help but covet my neighbour's ox and think of the steak bars which I had had to hasten past to reach the church on time.

The most modest trains in Switzerland have trolleys with drinks and sandwiches trundled up and down the corridors. Why can we not have them in this country? Yours faithfully, B. D. S. LOCK, 13 Milner Street, S.W.3, July 20.

There is, of course, no sign of Mr Brooke's entirely fanciful bogey of "politicians seeking to become trustees of the nation's charities". Where previously the charities were a waste of time and money, there is now a highly successful community enterprise in the field of voluntary welfare.

A great sum of money is now there, probably at least comparable to the income of some worldwide charity such as Oxfam; increasingly needs which the statutory services cannot meet are there; local volunteers are there; and this Government is committed to promoting local voluntary effort. Action, please.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES KIMBER, Number 2, Hinton Waldrist, Faringdon, Oxfordshire, July 15.

communities, the employed and the unemployed — and more. These are the true dimensions of the need for electoral reform. For Conservatives, appreciation of that need could make the difference between victory and defeat at the next election. Isn't this the real message from Warrington? Yours truly, TIM RATHBONE, NIGEL FISHER, House of Commons.

From Mr Martin Maycock. Sir, Warrington's SDP/ Liberal alliance voters have shown us that we need not despair of our political situation. I suggest the following timetable. The SDP and the Liberal Party should allow themselves three months to work out their internal arrangements and to draft an agreed programme. At the end of October all the present SDP and Liberal MPs should resign their seats, together with the other MPs certain now to join them, and fight the consequent by-elections as alliance candidates.

The members returned as a result of these elections would be able to "speak for Britain" with unparalleled authority. If anything approaching the Warrington outcome were repeated in as many as a score of these constituencies the Prime Minister's duty would be obvious.

Of course it is a hazardous move. But the alternative is to sit on our hands while the Thatcher policies are tested to destruction, and our children's hopes destroyed with them. Yours faithfully, MARTIN MAYCOCK, 27 Milton Road, Hanwell, W7.

From Mr David Marshall, MP for Glasgow, Shettleston (Labour). Sir, The result of the Warrington by-election has gained for the Social Democrats an entrée to the world of realpolitik.

Therefore the question must now be answered: if they held the balance of power after the next general election, which way would they jump in helping to form the next Government?

Will they give their parliamentary support to help the return of a Labour Government or will they use their numbers to give the Tories another term? Yours faithfully, DAVID MARSHALL, House of Commons, July 18.

Pensions should be linked to current pay levels, not price levels. If pay falls behind prices, pensioners should share in the general "belt-tightening" and if returning prosperity brings pay ahead of prices, public-service pensioners (whose working careers began in an altogether leaner world) should surely share that too.

The cost-of-living link was introduced when it was the usual assumption that "standards of living" would go on rising indefinitely, so that this link was cheaper. It is an indication of public (and media) attitudes that the principle is being attacked only now when, unexpectedly, it is working to the advantage of public-service pensioners.

However, two wrongs do not make a right, and public-service pensioners can have no legitimate grievance if the cost-of-living link is replaced by a system which allows the real value of their pensions to fall, or rise in step with some appropriate index of earnings in the community at large. Yours faithfully, ROY CATTRAN, 2 Donnington Road, Penzance, Cornwall.

Inscription of the Ten Commandments, I could not help but covet my neighbour's ox and think of the steak bars which I had had to hasten past to reach the church on time.

The most modest trains in Switzerland have trolleys with drinks and sandwiches trundled up and down the corridors. Why can we not have them in this country? Yours faithfully, B. D. S. LOCK, 13 Milner Street, S.W.3, July 20.

There is, of course, no sign of Mr Brooke's entirely fanciful bogey of "politicians seeking to become trustees of the nation's charities". Where previously the charities were a waste of time and money, there is now a highly successful community enterprise in the field of voluntary welfare.

A great sum of money is now there, probably at least comparable to the income of some worldwide charity such as Oxfam; increasingly needs which the statutory services cannot meet are there; local volunteers are there; and this Government is committed to promoting local voluntary effort. Action, please.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES KIMBER, Number 2, Hinton Waldrist, Faringdon, Oxfordshire, July 15.

the distribution of ritual little Christmas presents to a list of recipients which only changed with death or removal from the parish, having amalgamated so that they now have a useful sum which can be put to good use, they meet monthly and draw not only on their own local knowledge but on that of doctors, teachers, clergy, health visitors, social workers, but also on their own voluntary, and by no means least importantly, on those with experience of investment.

In very recent years therefore the total income of parish charities has become a really significant figure; yet to this total the very large majority of charities contribute almost nothing while the small minority of handworking charities contribute almost everything — in 1967 in this country they already contributed over two-thirds and by now it must be well over 80 per cent and possibly over 90 per cent.

The proposal to create neighbourhood trusts by amalgamating charities in groups of parishes therefore has nothing to do with the proposition that "bigger is better", as Mr Brooke surmises. Its purpose is to unfreeze sums, which in terms of local voluntary welfare have immense potential, as illustrated by an example in this country. Where previously trustees of 16 charities had met separately once a year to arrange

## Architects' share in education grants

From the President of the Royal Institute of British Architects. Sir, I understand that the University Grants Committee did not consult any of the professional bodies in formulating its advice to the universities on the financial reductions required by the Government, and on behalf of the Royal Institute of British Architects I must comment now.

I have myself argued in the past that numbers in architectural education should be related to the realities of the work available for architects. This is still necessary. The construction industry is suffering badly from the recession. Architects are not unaffected. But we are dealing with long-term issues and the short-term way in which the matter is being handled is deplorable. For example, the UGC's guidance to the universities has been given independently of an overview of the whole system of higher education. Architecture courses are offered not only by universities but also by polytechnics and other colleges. The Government should coordinate higher education properly.

Secondly, the UGC has indicated that provision for architecture should be reduced because of the lack of professional employment prospects. But it has an outstanding record for the employment of its graduates. It combines literacy, numeracy and visual judgement with an intimate involvement in the nation's most important industries, giving a flexibility of opportunity equalled by few, if any, other subjects.

A recent edition of the Gazette published by the Department of Employment states that University graduates least likely to be unemployed at the end of 1979 were those with degrees in medicine, architecture, ... (only six other fields named). Those already committed to enter the universities this autumn will not emerge into the market until the end of the decade.

Despite the recession the work of design has become more labour-intensive and the public more demanding in the standards it expects. The Royal Institute is promoting a variety of ways in which the effectiveness and flexibility of the profession can be developed, which will increase employment opportunities. I intend to ensure that the service available from architects becomes not only better, but better known, and better used as well. Who can therefore safely predict now with any accuracy the scope for service to society in the 1990s of the coming generation of students?

In the face of the emerging demographic and economic realities of the 1980s, the RIBA will not defend blindly the current numbers of schools or of students of architecture. However, it will defend the overall level of resources available for architectural education. Maybe these resources could be used to better effect. But if there is to be rationalization in the national and national interest, let it be truly rational and national. Yours sincerely, OWEN LUDER, Royal Institute of British Architects, 66 Portland Place, W1, July 17.

## Record rainfall

From Mr D. Steel. Sir, Mr Hector McDonnell (July 14) is not the first to protest about rain damage to the public records. The "Royal Westminster" exhibition includes a letter of complaint to Sir Christopher Wren, of June 1701, about leaks to the roof of the Westminster Chapter House, in which the public records were then stored. Yours faithfully, D. STEEL, Talbot Road, Highgate, N6, July 15.

## Wine bar

From Mr D. Wilkinson. Sir, I sympathize entirely with Mr. Hartcup's (July 15) letter about the treatment at the archaic El Vino's (letter, July 18). But why does she think a "long-serving prostitute" more deserving of abruptness than an "officer of the court"? Yours truly, D. WILKINSON, 26 Nowell View, Harehills, Leeds 9.

## Beneath the skin

From Mr John Hartcup. Sir, Your front page on July 15 carried the news that bones venerated for centuries near Moscow are in fact those of Tatar invaders, not Russian saints. As the famous French saying has it: "Gravez le russe et vous trouverez le tatar". Yours faithfully, JOHN HARTCUP, Swanton Court, Sevington, Ashford, Kent, July 16.

## Treble chance

From Mr Simon Owen. Sir, Eight hundred pounds per choirboy at the royal wedding certainly is a sign of the times. When I sang in the Chapel Royal choir at the wedding of Princess Margaret and Lord Snowdon I received £17 6d from ITV and a slightly smaller sum from the BBC. I can assure you I sang my heart out on the less and the glorious memory of the occasion needed no financial embellishment. Yours faithfully, SIMON OWEN, 187 Wandsworth Bridge Road, SW6, July 17.















Equestrianism

# Too many mistakes are made competing against the clock

By A Special Correspondent

The second day of the Royal International Horse Show at Wembley opened with two firsts for overseas riders. Eric Walters won the Wembley Arena Stakes for Belgium and Thomas Grünmann of Austria, won the Massey-Ferguson Stakes.

Although the course set by Alan Ball for the Wembley Stakes was quite straightforward, and the fences were none too stiff, a lot of horses made mistakes, and over it, possibly because they were competing against the clock from the start and not more than 10 of the 10 starters jumped a clear round.

Like many others, Ireland's Catherine Eddie Macken, riding Carrolls O'ward Road, yielded the fifth fence of chocolate and yellow parallels, and Harry Smith retired the much-fancied Sanyo Music Centre after two rounds at the second part of the double.

Walters was riding U.P. Winnetou, on whom he won the French Jumper Derby at La Baule a few weeks ago for the second year running, and he finished round the course in 44 seconds dead to knock three rivals off a long time and Michael Whitaker's time on Disney Way.

The course for the Massey-Ferguson Stakes was a good one, with a stiffer with a preponderance of fences and some very tight turns, and after Caroline Bradley had held the lead for a long time, a faultless round on Marius in 50.6 seconds, a dramatic climax was provided by the last two riders to go.

No sooner had Guy Creighton, of Australia, completed a clear round in 53.4 seconds on Mikkel, on whom he won the championship at the Dublin Horse Show, than Thomas Grünmann, coming

In last of all for Australia on Alkazar and throwing caution to the winds, produced an equally faultless round in 50.6 seconds. David Hunt, riding his nine-year-old Maple Zenith, was an outstanding winner of the Taylor Woodrow midsummer dressage championship.

After a classic jump-off, with each successive horse getting progressively faster, Harvey Smith and Sanyo Sammar emerged triumphant in the first of the big competitions for the Horse and Hound Cup, presented by the editor, Michael Clayton.

Six horses went through to the barrage. Malcolm Pyrah set the standard on Towerlands Angler, winner of the grand prix in Aberdeen 26.4 seconds. Courtman flattened the first fence, a parallel, decimating Derek Rickards before jumping every other fence immaculately. Rickards' fault was worth of damage had been done.

John Whitaker took up the running on Ryan's Son in 27.7 seconds. This was counted in 27.7 seconds by the only foreign visitor in the field, Henk Nooren, from the Netherlands, on O'Connell's Prince. He cut the time to 26.4 seconds. It was now up to David Brown on Mr. Ross. He jumped the first fence, but failed to get on at the second, and failed by 0.2 seconds to get on terms by finishing his young horse out of his natural rhythm.

WEMBLEY ARENA STAKES: 1. Walters U.P. Winnetou; 2. Grünmann Alkazar; 3. Macken Carrolls O'ward Road; 4. Smith Sanyo Music Centre; 5. Bradley Disney Way; 6. Creighton Mikkel.

MASSEY-FERGUSON STAKES: 1. Grünmann Alkazar; 2. Walters U.P. Winnetou; 3. Macken Carrolls O'ward Road; 4. Smith Sanyo Music Centre; 5. Bradley Disney Way; 6. Creighton Mikkel.

Racing

# Last day for cashing in on Derby winner

By Michael Phillips

Anyone interested in buying one or more of the 34 shares in the Derby winner, Shergar, which were put on the market at £250,000 each by the Aga Khan 13 days ago must have made their bid by today. Yesterday the Aga Khan office said that they expect him to make a statement tomorrow on everyone will know where they stand.

Saturday, of course, is the big day as far as Shergar is concerned. He will be the subject of an encounter with older horses for the first time on a racecourse in Ascot's £100,000 epic, the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes.

The way they have been spending on totally untried and untested horses in the United States this week provokes the thought that a horse with Shergar's record and pedigree can only be cheap at the price it will be interesting to hear how long the queue was for shares in his syndicate.

Shergar will have a maximum of seven opponents at Ascot. If he does win, and he is as good as doing so, he will emulate the triumph of the Irish Derby and the "Diamond" Stakes, the three races that some would say constitute the modern triple crown.

Cavalry, Flong's Cave, Light Cavalry and Faleria are the older horses who stood their ground. Ceburghis, who is a stable companion of Shergar, is also a contender, and the Prix de Diane winner, Madam Gay, were the other three-year-olds left in after yesterday's four-day fast.

And so to today. At Sandown Park this evening Divine Truth (A545), Lively Rhythm (A515) and Teamwork (A510) are the yet more winners for that remarkable bandwagon piloted so successfully this season by Guy Harwood. Starkey, Divine Truth is a half-brother, Cry of Truth and Melchior, and also renowned for his speed, 50.0 seconds.



Ninety-third success for Frank Hill: Northwest (left) winning the Ruckinge Handicap.

## Sandown Park programme

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Bloodstock sales

Brook Stud changes hands after 47 years

By Michael Phillips  
Racing Correspondent

In what is believed to be the biggest deal of its type the Brook Stud at Cheveley, near Newmarket, has just changed hands for the first time since 1934. The package includes all the bloodstock, many of which trace back to some of the most successful and influential families in the stud books.

Sir Kenneth Butt has sold his shares in the controlling company for an undisclosed sum to David Harris, who has had horses in training with Gavin Hunter for the past five years and has shares in eight horses there.

Laid out on 200 acres the stud has 88 loose boxes in three main yards including stables and foaling units. Steady Aim, who won the Oaks in 1946, and Petition, who won the Gimcrack Stakes that year and the Eclipse Stakes two years later, were among the best horses bred there just after the war.

Petition was the resident stallion until his death in 1974. He was the champion sire in 1939 and the leading sire of two-year-olds in 1963. In addition to being the sire of that outstanding filly, Petition, he is an influential factor in modern pedigrees because he is the grandsire of Troy and the great-grandfather of Brigadier Gerard and El-Mansour.

More recently, the important winners bred on the Brook Stud include Magee, Toot, Rector, Dubarry, Jacinth, Shebeen and Haneen.

Christopher Stephenson, who acted for Sir Kenneth and negotiated the deal, specializes in the purchase and sale of stud farms world-wide. He is the managing director of the Brook Stud, which is renowned for its quality of breeding stock.

While the Brook Stud is renowned for its quality of breeding stock, it is also known for its extensive collection of horses, which will be held this year two days after the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe on October 6 and 7.

In co-ordination with the same number as that enormously successful inaugural sale in 1974, the overall average was 68,760 Irish guineas.

Yesterday's managing director, Jonathan Swift, said that as his sale will be conducted in Irish guineas, the banking with sterling will be at a considerable advantage because

the exchange rate favours the pound to the tune of nearly 25 per cent.

Mr. Irwin added that the recent outcome of the Irish Oaks was a source of satisfaction because Goffs sold the first four when they were yearlings.

This year's catalogue looks strong and notable for the fact that eight of the lots are by stallions currently standing in the United States. The lot by Lyphard out of 1,000 Guineas winner, Mrs. McArday and the colt by the Kentucky Derby winner, Cannonade and out of a mare closely related to Alleged are two of particular interest.

A half-brother to the Irish 2,000 Guineas winner, Nikolai, a half-brother to this year's French Derby winner, Bikala, a brother to that high-class filly, Kiljaro and an own sister to the Irish 2,000 Guineas winner, Northern Treasure, are other lots certain to arouse more than just a ripple in the market.

Meanwhile, it was announced yesterday that the Levy Board are increasing their allowances for stallions, including hunters, travelling more than 100 miles. The scheme for the coming National Hunt season involves £107,000 and this represents an estimated increase of nearly 30 per cent on the amount distributed to owners last season.

The increased payments take into account the rise in transport costs during the past 12 months and reflect the board's continuing policy of encouraging the ownership of stallions.

Still on jumping, Bob Champion's achievement in winning the Grand National last year after having been so ill with cancer was without doubt one of the great stories of will-power and determination, and he is to have a race named after him at Fontwell Park. It will be the Portsmouth Steeplechase in which he rode his comeback winner, September, who will have £3,000 added, some of which has been contributed by Victor Gollancz, champion of the Champion's biographies, which will appear on the bookshelves during the same month.

Appropriately, the Football board has agreed that owners' subscriptions to the sweepstakes for this race will go to Cancer Research.

Finally, the Waterford Candelabra Stakes for two-year-old fillies run at Goodwood's August meeting has been upgraded to Group 1, and will carry £14,000 added this year.

Last August the race was top-class. The winner for Fairy Foot, Jonathan Swift, said that as his sale will be conducted in Irish guineas, the banking with sterling will be at a considerable advantage because



Brigadier Gerard, great grandson of the Brook Stud's champion sire, Petition.

Sangster pays £3.5m for yearling

From a Special Correspondent  
Lexington, July 21

Yearling prices took another great leap upwards last night, when a syndicate headed by Robert Sangster paid £3.5m (£1,871,660) for a son of Northern Dancer, on the first day of the Keeneland sales. This was more than twice the previous record of \$1.7m established there 12 months ago.

Minutes later the Aston Upthorpe stock, which had been the underdog for the record, sold, again £3.5m for another son of the 20-year-old Northern Dancer. The first million-dollar yearling, Canadian Sound, created a similar sensation at Keeneland five years ago. That half-brother to Dakota was knocked down for \$1.5m.

The new record holder is a full

brother to Storm Bird, who won five races in the Sangster colours last year and headed the Totalisator European Free Handicap. Unfortunately he has not seen a racecourse yet this season. Their dam is the 1977 Canadian Oaks winner, by 11 lengths and 12 other foals all won stakes events.

They include Northern Dancer, winner of the 1977 Canadian Oaks by 11 lengths and 12 other foals all won stakes events. Mr. Sangster, who was bidding, as he usually does through the medium of the B.B.A. (London) was at the rear of the sales ring while the record lot was being sold, a favourite play of his.

Sheikh Mohammed Bin Assad Al

Maktoum, who owns the Aston Upthorpe stock, was in the identity of his opponent.

Sheikh Mohammed, who has horses with John Dunlop, Frank Durr and Fulke Johnson Houghton, was the successful bidder for the first foal of Sweet Alliance, a daughter of Sir Ivor who won the Kentucky Oaks four years ago. He outbids Will Farish, a Texas oilman, for this \$3.5m son of Northern Dancer.

Yet another colt by that stallion appeared to be threatening the new record but he was eventually knocked down to Sir Philip Payne-Galwey of the B.B.A. (London). He was acting on behalf of Savarion, a Niobrara, for whom he bought eight other lots at between \$50,000 and \$600,000. In all he spent \$6.25 (£3,342,230).

Rugby Union

Springboks hope to find riches in Poverty

From David Elias  
Glasgow, July 21

The South Africans return to the international rugby scene today as an unknown quantity against Poverty Bay, an unrated East Coast team, isolated from international competition means that nobody knows how well they will fare.

They will be playing on an unusually muddy pitch after only two practices under miserable wet conditions. The forwards are big, heavy and strong and the ball handling of the backs was impressive during a period of touch rugby today. There were indications that this team will be formidable during its 16-match tour, which includes three internationals.

During the first two games this week at the poverty of 30, the play once and it was a popular decision locally among the large Maori population to include tomorrow the first of the Springboks, Errol Tobias, who has already displayed his talent as a ball handler.

In South Africa Tobias has been practising for the muddy New Zealand conditions by watering his back garden but no one was prepared for the quagmire they found themselves in. The players have to swim. The local rugby union president, Jack White, said he would never be forgiven if the same was called off. Special stands have been constructed so that the ground can take 15,000 people.

Yachting

Kilroy is the man to follow in Maxis

By John Nicholls

For the second day in succession the boat race, the Maxis, was won on handicap in the Seashore Maxi series at Cowes yesterday. Jim Kilroy's Kialoa, whose home "port" is Wilmington, Delaware, led from start to finish and was one and a half minutes ahead of the Spanish yacht, Xargo IV (F. Siges), at the end of a long and somewhat processional race.

As so often happens in the Solent, the tide was responsible for both slowing down and stringing out the 11 starters, and the last to finish was three-quarters of an hour after the first. Since Xargo is the scratch boat of the fleet, she clearly could not beat Kialoa on corrected time, and the minutes passed before the arrival of the next boat, Concor (Stokely Ball), it became less likely that any other entry could better Kialoa's time.

The pattern of the race was set soon after the start, when the fleet divided into two groups. The majority, led by Kialoa, chose to beat to the westward against a foul tide on the mainland shore of the Solent. Xargo, Concor, Glana VI (Baron Edmund de Rothschild) headed for the Island shore, but it was soon apparent that they had made the wrong decision.

Xargo and Concor decided to cut their losses and crossed back over the tide, but Glana did not follow suit until she had to cross over for the first time, where

everyone came together for the first time. After a second crossing of the tide to a turning mark, Yarmouth, the order was Kialoa, Xargo, Flyer (Cornelius van Riettschoten), Mistress Quix (W. Whithouse Vaux) and Concor. The first two boats had pulled away from the others and the following long-drawn-out race helped them even more.

Concor began to make some progress through the boats ahead of her and at the end of the first round she was leading fourth. Then the fresh breeze died away and the tide now abbe to the west, again played a part in separating the boats. Concor gained another place on the second round, but there was no catching Kialoa and Xargo.

For the third day in succession in the European championship of the International Etchells class on the Forth a different yacht led the fleet. Yesterday it was the turn of Keith Miller in the Island, whose choice of the northern shore for the course paid off handsomely in the westerly breeze on the beat to Inchmickery. He is a former Dragon sailor who won a race with Isis in the last Dragon Cup in Britain, which was also sailed on the Forth.

For the Etchells third race results: 1. Island (K. Miller), 2. Stone (J. Peacock), 3. Adrenaline (P. Pender), 4. House (A. ...).

Nervous moment for leaders

The defending champions, Peter Colclough and Harold Barnes, held off the repeated challenges of the series leaders, Peter White and Ben Moss, to win the third race of the 505 National championship being sailed by the Royal Torbay Yacht Club.

It was an uneventful and exciting race for the leaders when the offshore breeze met the sea breeze by the leeward mark at the end of the last run and there was a large margin between them. Colclough and Barnes were well up the fleet at the first mark for the first time and slipped past Peter White and Ben Moss to start the second round just behind White and Jonathan Ward.

Colclough got a bit white on the first round but he was able to hold his nerve and in spite of losing his mast check he held off White's challenge.

RESULTS: 1. P. Colclough and H. Barnes, 2. P. White and B. Moss, 3. J. Ward and J. White, 4. J. White and P. White, 5. J. White and P. White, 6. J. White and P. White, 7. J. White and P. White, 8. J. White and P. White, 9. J. White and P. White, 10. J. White and P. White, 11. J. White and P. White, 12. J. White and P. White, 13. J. White and P. White, 14. J. White and P. White, 15. J. White and P. White, 16. J. White and P. White, 17. J. White and P. White, 18. J. White and P. White, 19. J. White and P. White, 20. J. White and P. White, 21. J. White and P. White, 22. J. White and P. White, 23. J. White and P. White, 24. J. White and P. White, 25. J. White and P. White, 26. J. White and P. White, 27. J. White and P. White, 28. J. White and P. White, 29. J. White and P. White, 30. J. White and P. White, 31. J. White and P. White, 32. J. White and P. White, 33. J. White and P. White, 34. J. White and P. White, 35. J. White and P. White, 36. J. White and P. White, 37. J. White and P. 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# Business News

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## 500,000 Britons did no work last year

By David Felton  
Labour Reporter

The number of people in Britain who have not worked for more than a year has reached 500,000 and is expected to rise even more sharply during the next 12 months, according to the annual report of the Manpower Services Commission published today.

Long-term unemployment increased dramatically over the last year and the commission has predicted that, if total unemployment excluding school leavers rises to 2.8 million by 1983, as some forecasters suggest, long-term unemployed would account for 940,000 of the total—equivalent to one in three of all unemployed.

In an attempt to provide a better service for the long-term unemployed, the commission earlier this year introduced the community enterprise programme, which replaced the special temporary employment programme, and is designed to provide work of benefit to the community as a whole.

The new programme, introduced in April, is designed for only 25,000 places a year. The commission is hoping that, if successful, it will be able to approach the Government for further funds for expansion.

Sir Richard O'Brien, commission chairman, says in an introduction to the report that staffing and spending cuts demanded by the Government meant that the "commission was unable to meet the needs of the labour market in its employment and training services as it would have wished".

"During the past year, the commission shed 10 per cent of its staff—equivalent to 1,400 jobs in the commission's service—and its total expenditure in the year ending March was £187m. The commission has asked Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, for further £93m for the current year to meet the number of places available on the youth opportunities programme by 100,000 to 550,000. The minister has not yet taken a decision, but in view of recent statements by Mr Prior on the need to provide all school leavers with permanent employment or job training, the commission is hoping that the extra funding will be sanctioned soon.

Unemployment last year would have been 350,000 higher but for the commission's special employment programmes. The report summarizes the past 12 months as a period of high and rising unemployment "particularly severe among the young, school leavers and members of the ethnic minority groups."

"The year to come is expected to bring further increases in unemployment, although not the very high rates of increase seen towards the end of 1980", the report says. During the year, jobcentres and employment offices filled more than 1.5 million vacancies, and the youth opportunities programme provided a record 360,000 places at a cost of £215m.

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## Fed's grip will keep US loan rate high

From Frank Vogel, Washington, July 21

Monetary policy in the United States will remain tight for the rest of this year and the Federal Reserve Board has decided on an even slower rate of money supply growth for 1982.

The Fed's decision, which ensures high interest rates for some time to come, has been made despite mounting congressional resistance to high rates and strong criticism by foreign leaders at the Ottawa summit. Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Fed, said in his mid-year report on policy to Congress today that further slowing in money supply growth is essential to curb inflation and to build confidence in the prospect of sustained lower inflation levels. He said interest rates will not fall until there are greater expectations of price stability. "We are at a critical point in the fight on inflation," he said.

The central bank chief announced that, from the start of next year, the narrow measure of the money supply, known as M1, will simply be called M1. This measure, which essentially consists of currency plus demand deposits, is set to

increase in 1982 by between 2.5 and 5.5 per cent, which compares with a 1981 growth range of 3.5 to 6 per cent. The broader measures of the money supply, M2 and M3, are set to increase in 1982 by 6 to 9 per cent and 6.5 to 9.5 per cent respectively. Mr Volcker stressed that this year it is likely that growth will be at the top end of these ranges while the Fed will aim next year for the lower end of these ranges and so bring about a real slowing of money supply.

The move to even greater restraint of money supply may well ensure sluggish economic growth in the year ahead. The Fed's report said that the near-term outlook is for a flat economy. Growth of real gross national product from the final quarter of this year to the final quarter of 1982 is predicted by the Fed's key policy committee to be between 1 and 4 per cent, compared with a White House forecast of 5.2 per cent.

A big worry on Wall Street is that the planned congressional tax cuts will have a stimulating and inflationary effect on the economy in the near future. The Fed's report stated that "most of the impact of the proposed tax cuts would affect private markets in the second half of 1982".

The policy committee forecast inflation, on the basis of the gap deflator, at 6.5 to 8.5 per cent for 1982 and predicted final quarter 1982 unemployment at between 7 and 8.5 per cent.

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## Cold winter could mean cuts in gas supplies

By Edward Townsend

British Gas has given a warning that if there is a prolonged period of very cold weather this winter, gas supplies to industry might be threatened.

Problems could arise because of continuing delays in bringing into operation the huge Brent Field in the North Sea, Britain's largest oil and gas discovery.

Mr Jack Smith, deputy chairman of British Gas, said yesterday that Brent gas should have been delivered in 1979-80, but latest information suggested it would not be until 1982, and then only in modified quantities.

By now, the corporation had been expecting to receive 550 million to 600 million cu ft of Brent gas a day, representing about 10 per cent of an average day's demand.

Because of the delays there would be supply difficulties this winter, he said, but these would depend on the severity of the weather. Big problems would occur if the winter was as bad as that of 1962-63.

The corporation's criterion in ensuring continuous gas supplies is to budget for conditions as extreme as occur once in 50 years. Such conditions last occurred in the 1880s, when the Thames froze over in central London.

Mr Smith said that without Brent gas, the corporation could meet only the demand to be expected once in 15 or 20 years.

Should British Gas be forced to make cuts, industrial customers for so-called interruptible supplies would be first. Domestic consumers would not be affected.

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## Chairman details plans for meeting competition PO chief predicts profit

By Bill Johnston

The Post Office will show a profit for the last financial year, Mr Ron Dearing, chairman of Post and Giro, has predicted confidently.

However, the profits, to be published at the end of August, are expected to fall far short of the company's target of £40m.

The corporation returned a £30m loss for the first six months of the last financial year, although the National Giro had a profit of £3m. At the time the losses were made public, the Post Office executives predicted profit by the year end.

The Post Office yesterday disclosed some of its plans for competing with the private sector after the British Telecommunications Bill is given Royal Assent this Friday. The Bill abolishes the Post Office's monopoly in the delivery of letters.

A "Super Service" will be launched as a trial this autumn in the West Midlands. The service will accept customers' orders by telephone for overnight or same day delivery.

The trial will cover Birmingham, Coventry, Dudley, Walsall, Wolverhampton and the surrounding areas, including the counties of the West Midlands and Warwickshire.

The staff taking orders at the telephone centre will have visual display units linked to a computer, that will allow them quickly to answer inquiries, accept orders and quote prices.

The new service will combine the facilities of Expresspost and Datapost. Expresspost offers same day delivery and Datapost the collection and delivery overnight of "urgent merchandise".

The Post Office clearly is concerned about the effects that competition may have on its income.

"Our answer is direct and clear", Mr Dearing says. "We compete."



Riding into battle: Mr Dearing tries out courier Stephen Selby's Expresspost motorcycle.

## Japanese buy back British scrap

By Peter Hill

Japanese steel mills are rapidly becoming big customers of Britain's motor trade, buying increasing volumes of scrapped cars—some of them imported from Japan—to feed into the capacious jaws of Japan's steel furnaces.

Leaders of the industrialized world, meeting at their summit session in Ottawa, will have devoted some of their discussions to the problems caused by Japan's growing trade surplus with Europe. But at a more prosaic level, Britain's scrap processors are doing something to redress the present trade imbalance.

The United Kingdom scrap industry, like many others, is in the depths of recession. The volume of scrap from engineering works and other steel-consuming industries is down; prices are weak; and demand from the steelmakers in Britain and Europe is substantially lower. Scrap processors are operating their plants at well below capacity.

But the processors, ever alive to possibilities elsewhere, have turned increasingly to export markets. Further afield than those with which they have traditionally been associated, demand for British scrap is reported to be particularly strong from India, the Middle East and the Far East, with Japan's steel mills particularly important customers.

Companies such as the Thos. Ward Group and the Bird Group of Stratford-upon-Avon are among those which have carved out a niche in the Far East market.

Over the next few weeks, the Bird Group will be shipping more than 15,000 tonnes of shredded motor car scrap to the Far East, principally to Japan, through the South Wales port of Barry.

## Bank gives support as pound falls below \$1.84

By John Whitmore

The firm line taken by the Federal Reserve Board, together with increased dollar interest rates, led to a further sharp rise in the dollar, pushing sterling to its lowest level this year.

In London, the pound closed 2.2 cents lower at \$1.8455 after a low of \$1.8375. Dealers report a fairly active intervention by the Bank of England in support of sterling.

Domestic interest rates continued under upward pressure, particularly money market rates between one month and one year. These were often 1 per cent or more higher. Three month interbank rate, for example, traded at around 14 1/4 per cent during the afternoon.

But the Bank of England kept the pressure off ultra-short rates, supplying funds to the discount market at 12 1/2 per cent.

The commission's undertaking to offer a youth opportunities place by Easter to every unemployed 1980 school leaver was substantially met, the report says. By Easter, only 5,300 school leavers had yet to be offered a place, the majority in London and the Midlands, providing "a striking indication of the speed with which the recession hit previously prosperous areas".

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## Rooke denounces 'malicious attacks'

By Bill Johnston

A Japanese-British venture has been agreed between Marconi and Mitsubishi for the design and installation in Hongkong of two earth stations for satellite communications.

The contract, worth about £5m, was awarded by the British state-owned telecommunications company, Cable and Wireless, a number of contracts for civil engineering work and other construction have yet to be awarded.

The stations, to be designed on the basis of technical exchange between the two companies, will be built on the Stanley Peninsula and will be operational by November next year.

At present there are two earth stations on the peninsula. One of the new ones will replace a station built more than 12 years ago. The second will cater for the extra load on Hongkong telecommunications which has been built up in recent years.

The joint venture is an example of the technological exchange which the Department of Industry is keen to promote. Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Industry and Information Technology, led a visit to Japan in April.

Gas beats target, page 20

## Marconi in £5m joint satellite deal

By Bill Johnston

A Japanese-British venture has been agreed between Marconi and Mitsubishi for the design and installation in Hongkong of two earth stations for satellite communications.

The contract, worth about £5m, was awarded by the British state-owned telecommunications company, Cable and Wireless, a number of contracts for civil engineering work and other construction have yet to be awarded.

The stations, to be designed on the basis of technical exchange between the two companies, will be built on the Stanley Peninsula and will be operational by November next year.

At present there are two earth stations on the peninsula. One of the new ones will replace a station built more than 12 years ago. The second will cater for the extra load on Hongkong telecommunications which has been built up in recent years.

The joint venture is an example of the technological exchange which the Department of Industry is keen to promote. Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Industry and Information Technology, led a visit to Japan in April.

Gas beats target, page 20

## Miners 'trying to relive past'

By Nicholas Cole

Public investment of nearly £3,000m in the coal industry since 1974 must now yield its promised results, Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, told the all-party conference of MPs in the House of Commons yesterday.

Mr Howell said: "The extra support for the industry of £230m which I announced on June 16 takes account of all the industry's financial needs, including both the specific commitments made to the industry and the cost imposed by the wider economic difficulties."

He made no specific reference to the recent vote by the National Union of Mineworkers to back a demand for a minimum rate of £100 a week on a salary basis, which would give face-workers £10,000 a year.

But he said there had been "fighting talk" from some miners in recent days and continued:

"But who are they fighting? Not the Government, as some of them seem to believe, but first of all themselves, and secondly their customers. They are trying to relive the past instead of preparing for the future."

"That future could be very bright, but it requires the industry to be willing to adapt and change... it must win new markets in competition with other fuels. The miners can best secure their own living standards and job security by recognising this."

"Since 1974, the taxpayer has invested nearly £3,000m in the coal industry to secure this possibility. That massive investment must now yield its promised results. The miners owe it to the nation and themselves to give the nation coal at prices it can afford to pay."

He gave warning of the extremely tight financial framework for the industry, and said that the year







BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

# Dowty feels the NCB cutbacks

Having indicated in February only two months before its year end that full-year profits would be roughly unchanged, there was bound to be some disappointment with Dowty's slip in pretax profits from £37.9m to £36.2m. But the one-twenty-five pence, one-tenth rise in the dividend to 7.1p gross and the group's evident confidence about the current year were enough to hold the fall in the shares yesterday to only 4p at 277p, where the rise since the interim figures has been about one third.

All the damage has been concentrated in the mining equipment division where the cutback in National Coal Board orders has resulted in trading profits of only £2.4m in the second half against £5.7m in the first half, a figure that also includes £1.8m of redundancy costs. Mining exports even excluding the Chinese order have held up rather better, although export margins have been tight owing to German competition in the important US market. Elsewhere, the industrial division also felt the recession and there were pockets of resistance in the electronics side as well, noticeably components.

But that still leaves the aerospace activities as the driving force with sales one third higher last year and improved margins raising trading profits 46 per cent to £23.8m.

The Tornado project, one of the major factors behind this good performance, has now peaked but with any luck the new Harrier orders from the US and the Jaguar contract should take up the slack and the order books are as strong as at the start of last year.

The uncertainty over the current year remains the NCB although longer term there must be some relaxation on cash limits. Growth in the current year should be enough to lift profits over the £40m level where the prospective p/e ratio is still a demanding 18 or so.

So far, banks and financial institutions have escaped EEC harmonization of annual accounts but their turn is drawing nearer and the Department of Trade has now issued a consultative document inviting comments by the end of November on the draft directive affecting the annual accounts of banks.

On the question of hidden reserves, which is likely to prove one of the most contentious areas, the directive proposes a certain amount of flexibility. Merchant banks would for instance be able to undervalue loans up to a point where they considered necessary for reasons of prudence whereas at the moment hidden reserves are on the liability side of the balance sheet. But the proposals would still mean considerable changes for the banking community and with consideration of the directive due to begin in 1982, the Department of Trade will be looking to form a United Kingdom negotiating position on such matters as the form and degree of disclosure exemptions.

## Hanson Trust Topping up

Berec's shares rose 2p to 90p in yesterday's falling market on the news of Hanson's £43m of 9.75 per cent rights issue of 9.75 per cent convertible stock, the assumption being that having taken a near 15 per cent stake Hanson is now preparing for a full bid. At the 95p a share Hanson paid for Berec shares recently, the rest of the equity would cost another £53m.

Hanson would of course have had to plan the issue and join the queue some time before it pounced on Berec, so it may be misleading to draw too close a link between the two events. Although Hanson is likely to be content as merely a passive shareholder in Berec, it is not a company to be rushed into action before it is ready, and it may decide to bide its time with Berec.

It is an acquisitive company, though, and given the fact that Hanson's balance sheet was under no strain anyway, Hanson clearly wants to have adequate resources available to mount a bid whether for Berec or another company in the United Kingdom or North America which catches its eye.

The last published balance sheet showed cash and deposits of £57m at the end of March offset by overdrafts of only £14m while term debt was £105m — up from £43m six months earlier reflecting the McDonough acquisition — and shareholders' funds were £135m. Since then Hanson has raised £50m in the United States by selling the McDonough cement interests as well as £25m via a convertible

eurodollar issue. So the latest convertible rights issue leaves Hanson comfortably placed to make a sizable acquisition either side of the Atlantic. It may of course, repay some of the debt taken aboard with McDonough.

The issue itself should go off well enough. Shareholders are being offered twice the yield available on the ordinary shares and providing the ordinary shares — down 11p to 266p — hold steady, the loan stock could open around £104.

## Hogg Robinson Boosted by travel

Results from Insurance broker Hogg Robinson for the year to the end of March were better than the market was expecting, and the shares responded to the marginal improvement to £9.31m (before tax and exceptional items) with an 8p jump to 117p before closing at 114p. But that's probably the end of the excitement for the next six months or even longer. For failing a takeover (which cannot be ruled out, but does not look likely), Hogg Robinson's virtues now are strictly of the longer-term variety.

Much as expected, profits from insurance broking were well down last year (from £3.333m to just over £2m) while those from the underwriting agencies (reflecting the experience of 1978) were well up. The surprise in the package came from the travel and shipping subsidiaries, whose profits rose by almost 40 per cent to £1.41m due to an aggressive push for market share. After the exceptional item (the £225,000 cost of writing off the group's investment in its Uganda business) the group's earnings per share are up from 11.93p to 12.5p, and the dividend has been marginally increased to put the shares on a yield of almost 7½ per cent.

The problem now is that there are no signs of an improvement in the underwriting cycle, so that insurance broking profits are unlikely to improve this year; profits from the Lloyd's underwriting agencies are almost certain to decline because of the poor experience of 1979; and the travel and shipping side is unlikely to manage a repeat performance. Moreover, profits in the current year will be affected by the costs of financing the recent acquisition of the US brokers Penn General, which could amount to the best part of £500,000 this year. Longer-term, of course, the insurance broking side will recover, and Hogg Robinson thinks that the prospects for Penn General are very exciting on a two-year view.

## RIT

### A hard act to follow

RIT's latest figures reflect the transformation through which the investment trust has gone in the past year. Pretax profits are up 20 per cent to £9.1m, and the post-conversion net asset value per share of 488p in mid-July provides a discount of 25 per cent to the share price 370p, up 4p. These yardsticks show a slowing down in 1980 of RIT's growth, and the discount has moved from being noticeably less than the average for the sector to just about the same.

But all this does not prove that RIT has lost its touch. Quite the reverse, the group has deliberately paid the price of its reorientation towards overseas investment and the search for special situations. It raised some £35m from selling the large stakes such as those in The Corn Exchange, Godfrey Davis, London Sumatra, The Savoy Hotel, and part of Sotheby Parke Bernet. High liquidity restrained the performance somewhat, but allowed RIT to switch into foreign stocks. Cash is now less than at the end of the last financial year, and instead of 80 per cent of the portfolio being in the UK some two-thirds is now abroad.

The strategy is to continue the hunt for special situations — mainly recovery possibilities such as Weir Group — and place the accent in the portfolio on financial investments. The approach should give RIT a distinct character over the next year or two, especially if a major acquisition in the financial sector comes off. The policy should also increase RIT's gearing to market movements, and help restore its growth record.

It is some time since there has been such a bout of nervousness and uncertainty in London's money markets as is the case at present.

Except for very short-term money (seven days and less) interest rates have risen steeply right across the board over the past fortnight. Three month money rates now stand above 14 per cent and long-dated government bonds now yield close to 16 per cent.

But the bank of England has not raised its minimum lending rate (MLR) from 12 per cent and the big commercial banks have so far left their base rates at that level, too.

Markets are, to say the least, confused by all this. They do not know what the official thinking on interest rates is. Why has all this happened?

There are two main reasons. One is to be the United States and the combined determination of the Reagan Administration and the Federal Reserve to combat inflation by lowering the rate of growth of the dollar money supply.

That has meant the acceptance of an extremely tight monetary policy and high real interest rates, even at the risk of finally sending the US economy into temporary recession.

By contrast with what the American authorities have been prepared to countenance in terms of interest rates — 20 per cent on long-dated issues, for example — the United Kingdom's efforts to gain control of the money supply over the past couple of years look decidedly weak and cowardly.

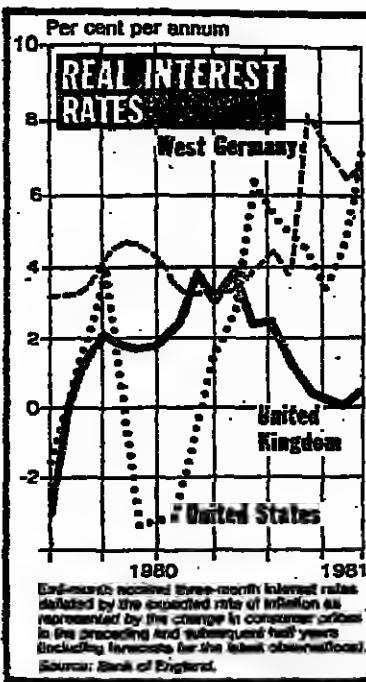
That is not to say that the United Kingdom Government would necessarily have achieved much by allowing base rates to rise to 20 or 25 per cent. Nor is it to say the Americans' policy will necessarily succeed either.

The relevant point is that the United States has been prepared to accept an extremely tough financial discipline, and in doing so, has inevitably posed severe problems for the rest of the world, with the possible exception of the members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

With dollar interest rates so

# The upward spiral of interest rates

America's tough financial regime, and the consequent flood of funds into the dollar, have led to severe problems for the rest of the world and confusion in the money markets



high, international funds have been drawn into the dollar on a massive scale, pushing it sharply higher against all other major currencies. At the start of this year one dollar bought 1.96 Deutsche marks and 41.8p.

Today it buys about 2.44 Deutsche marks and 54p. The converse of this is that on January 1 one Deutsche mark bought 51 cents, whereas today it buys only 41 cents.

The effect on the cost of dollar-denominated imports, particularly of oil, is obvious. That is why most major countries have felt bound to take "retaliatory" interest rate action to try to defend their currencies and moderate the consequent importing of inflation.

What happens next is anyone's guess, but the answer is of great importance for the whole world economy. American interest rates may fall somewhat over the rest of the summer as the economy slows down, but the rise in dollar interest rates during the Spring was not unwelcome. In effect, it

resolved the dilemma of how to prevent the pound appreciating further without cutting United Kingdom interest rates and putting domestic monetary control at risk. Up went dollar interest rates and the dollar — and down came the pound.

Relative interest rates alone do not, of course, provide the whole explanation for the pounds sharp fall. Lower oil prices and growing overseas anxiety about the Government's economic performance have also combined to undermine sterling.

But once sterling went below \$2 and then \$1.50, the alarm bells started ringing as the Government began to question the trade-off between the advantages of a falling pound (improved international competitiveness) and the disadvantages (renewed inflationary pressure as a result of rising import prices). Thoughts automatically turned back to what might be done on the interest rate front to check the pound's slide.

The problem has proved far

Rising debts are straining Belgium's economy to the limits. Peter Norman reports

# Mr Eyskens's impossible mission?

Brussels

Mr Mark Eyskens, the Prime Minister of Belgium, is fond of describing his task as "mission impossible". Since he took office as head of the Government in early April his quarrelsome coalition of Flemish and French speaking Christian and Socialist parties has come close to collapsing more than once.

The "tribe" complexities of Belgian politics can curdle the merger of two large loss-making steel companies or the mother tongue of a high level candidate for a Government agency post into the state of which inter-party strife is made.

But, undeterred by his bumpy ride, Mr Eyskens has given his team until the end of this month to carry out a mission that many observers are convinced is impossible — bringing some control to Belgium's crippling burden of state debt.

The Belgian economy is sick and the main cause is the massive and rapidly growing public deficit. By the end of this month the Government must draw up plans to find an estimated 110,000m to 130,000m Belgian francs (£1,470m, to £1,730m), through savings or increased revenues, if it is to be able to present a 1982 budget with a financially plausible deficit of 200,000m francs.

At present Belgium's deficit is running at 1,000m francs a day. This means that the state is incurring new debt at the rate of £10 a week for every one of the 10 million men, women and children in the country.

The country's financial problems have become such that Belgium has been reported as putting pressure on the authorities for

reform. Mr Eyskens has pointed out that when the IMF stepped in to put the British economy back on course in 1976 the United Kingdom's budget deficit was only 10 per cent of gross national product (GNP). Last year Belgium's overall deficit touched nearly 12 per cent of the 1980 GNP and, without reform, it could rise to 16 per cent next year.

This deterioration, producing new debt, has been in progress without interruption since the oil crisis of 1973.

Whereas most West European countries at least slowed down the rate of their new indebtedness after 1976, Belgium proved to be an exception to the rule. While the overall debt of the state increased by 150 per cent between 1970 and 1975 it rose by 210 per cent between 1975 and 1980. As a result, Belgium has the highest level of debt per head of population of any advanced industrialised country.

The scale of indebtedness is difficult to appreciate at first because the statistics are obscure in a way that can only work in favour of the authorities. By the end of last year the overall level of official public debt was put at 1,956,800m francs (or £26,091m at today's exchange rate). But what is "official" debt? It is government debt, not account of other borrowings outside the central government budget.

If other organizations, such as the motorway financing funds where interest payments and redemption are guaranteed by the state, are included, the state debt at the end of last year amounted to 2,200,000m francs.

After adding the debts incurred by subordinate authorities, such as provincial



Mr Mark Eyskens, the Belgian Prime Minister; he has given his government team until the end of this month to bring a measure of control over the country's debt.

authorities or municipalities, the overall state debt at the end of last year amounted to 2,650,000m francs or three quarters of Belgium's gross national product last year.

It is this overall level of debt which has been worrying the International Monetary Fund and should be worrying Belgium's bankers abroad. But, so far, the Belgian National Bank's large gold holdings and its ability to give most speculators against the Belgian franc a "bloody nose" have staved off any fundamental reassessment of the country's credit rating.

Another factor in favour of Belgium has been its overall ability to increase productivity at a faster rate, than its industrial rivals. Productivity in Belgium increased at an average annual rate of 6.5 per cent between 1973 and 1979, while in West Germany and Japan the comparative figures were 4.7 per cent and 4.5 per cent.

But in Belgium the advance was mainly because of cutbacks in employment and the reduction of working hours. This escape route has narrowed because of the duration of the

recession and the growth in unemployment to a level that is second only to that of Britain among the industrialized countries of the EEC.

The recession and Belgium's position as a country without indigenous energy resources have helped to turn one of Europe's postwar economic success stories into a warning of what happens to a country that persistently lives above its means.

The high level of public debt has brought in its train high interest rates, a flagging private sector, deindustrialization and sharp increase in the number of jobless.

But peculiarly Belgian factors have accelerated the decline. The linguistic differences between French speaking Walloons and Dutch speaking Flemings have brought Belgium's economy, as well as its politics, grinding to a near halt.

Belgium has become a regionalized, if not quite a federal, state. One result has been a dramatic jump in the number of public sector jobs at a time of

from simple to resolve. For, besides the basic questions whether a rise in interest rates would have much impact on the exchange rate, whether it would bring a knock of the head the prospect of an economic recovery this year and whether it was politically feasible, a host of other complications have been clouding the issue.

Thanks to the impact of the civil servants' dispute on tax flows, nobody at present knows for sure what is happening on the money supply, further complication flowing from the civil servants' action is that a settlement of the dispute, and the expected surge in tax payments that should follow, will automatically lead to a tightening of conditions in the money markets.

On top of all this the Bank of England is in the middle of modifying the monetary control mechanism in the banking money market area. Some of the key elements in this are that markets should play a greater role in determining short-term interest rates, that short-term rates should be rather more flexible and that the big commercial banks, rather than the authorities (through MLR), should establish the appropriate level for base lending rates.

These aims in themselves imply a greater element of uncertainty in markets and, until the rules of the game become clearer, the uncertainty is bound to be compounded.

The fact of the matter, however, is that the Bank still represents one side of the short-term market and in that role must retain enormous influence. But, with no outward exchange controls any longer, it must also be true that United Kingdom interest rates will be more sensitive to international movements overseas and that the authorities will stand to weaken their influence if they fail to make their views sufficiently clear.

What, then, views the Government should be directing the Bank to put to the market is debatable. Real interest rates are not especially high in Britain, but international stance hardly, yet it is questionable whether the high interest rate weapon is the right way forward for the United Kingdom economy at present.

John Whitmore

## Business Diary: Whither Yvonne's second string?

Mystery surrounds the sponsorship by Campari International (the sportswear firm, not the aperitif makers) of archery champion Yvonne Oakshott.

Miss Oakshott, who is 22 and comes from Southampton, is an undergraduate reading physics at the University of Bath.

The University of Bath has a sports scholarship scheme under which undergraduates of above-average academic ability who are also potential international-class sportsmen and women can stay on for an extra year, the better to combine their academic and sporting careers. The cost is met by industrial sponsors.

Miss Oakshott, who comes from Southampton, was to have benefited to the extent of £5,000 from Campari. But, she heard, three years after Miss Oakshott was selected for the scheme and with only a year before she leaves Bath, the university has yet to receive any money from Campari.

Campari would not discuss the matter last night, but I understand that Miss Oakshott's academic and sporting interests were underwritten by an astonishing feat of enterprise on the part of the university, which organized extra revenue-raising courses so that her career would not be jeopardized.

Miss Oakshott is listed as "Sponsored by Campari Limited" in the latest edition of the Bath University booklet on the sports sponsorship scheme. This was revised in January of this year, and sent out to about 50 potential candidates.

The trouble between the university and Campari seems to have started three years ago, when the university's sports committee met to interview seven applicants for three



Yvonne Oakshott: who speeds the arrow?

scholarships, one of which was to be funded by Campari. Among the members of that committee, which met on June 2, 1978, was a Jim Sutherland, assistant to Randolph Black, then a Campari deputy managing director and now company secretary.

The three scholarships were awarded, and two reserves named, among them Miss Oakshott. The offer of the scholarship was conditional upon applicants getting satisfactory A-level results. The university demands not only that the athletes meet academic entrance requirements but even have above-average attainments as proof that they can cope with the dual load of reading for a degree and working towards international status in sport.

One of the three students offered a scholarship, a girl tower, subsequently failed to get good enough A-levels. This was the girl Campari wanted.

However, the university understood that Campari had accepted Miss Oakshott as a reserve, and indeed when the three successful candidates — Miss Oakshott included — were later introduced to the public at a press conference the following October, Campari's Sutherland was there representing the company as her sponsor.

Henry Lipson, the chairman of Campari International, was not available for comment last night. His office said he would be on holiday for the next two weeks.

The company secretary, Randolph Black, would neither confirm nor deny whether Campari International was, or will be contributing to Miss Oakshott's scholarship.

He said: "If there is any statement to make, I will make it jointly with the University of Bath authorities."

Miss Oakshott in her third year at Bath, and will sit her degree next year, was one of the candidates in that year to win a full international cap.

She was to have been funded to the tune of about £5,000 to cover the cost of her fourth, extra year's university fees, as well as the cost of her archery specialist coaching, travel and equipment.

Miss Oakshott is now a Great British youth international, this year's British university champion and English students' champion and Hampshire ladies' county champion.

She is one of seven scholar-athletes who have benefited from the university's sports scholarship scheme, which enables them to spend an

additional year at university, so combining degree studies with training at a vital stage of their sporting development.

The first athlete on the scheme was biologist Martyn Hedges, European champion sponsored by Office Cleaning Services, canoeist and fencer, and winner of the World Slalom Championship in North Wales.

Horticulturalist William Jackson, sponsored by John Moore's, founder of the Littlewoods Organisation, is in the British judo team. Susan Ross, a pharmacist, is a modern pentathlon exponent, who represented her country in Sweden last month. She, too, is sponsored by OCS.

Another OCS scholar is judo expert Nigel Woodhouse, who won a bronze medal in the World Water-Championships in Switzerland last month.

OCS has just announced it will put up £9,000 for an eighth scholar, chemical engineer Peter Taylor. He is a full international modern pentathlete and 1984 Olympic hopeful. I gather at even at this late stage, after a long and unproductive exchange of letters and visits, the university is hoping some accommodation may be reached with Campari.

John Moore's is also sponsoring engineer and canoeist Nigel Woodhouse, who won a bronze medal in the World Water-Championships in Switzerland last month.

This had him talking of red

tape stifling enterprise and the need for a large pair of scissors to cut through it. That is not to say, however, that he is a "pathetic" or "dumb" politician, shouting against the system rather than working through it.

Pope's second symbolic act on assuming office was to pull several pints of Britain's strongest beer, Thomas Hardy's Ale, for he is finance and planning director of Eldridge Pope, the family firm of Dorchester brewers and wine merchants who make this fortifying stimulant.

Though his father, Philip, is chairman and his cousin Christopher, managing director, Pope's career is not all family-centred. He has also set up a new "small business from scratch" — the private 20-bed "Pope's" hotel in Dorchester which is scheduled to open at the beginning of next year.

That particular exercise also illustrates what he means about working through the system. It started with some local medical consultants setting up a registered charity. Pope hybridized it, setting up a limited company to run in parallel. Now he is on the point of modifying the structure again so that the hospital can qualify for help under the Government's new start-up scheme.

That, of course, is one of the "useful initiatives" he does not want to see spelt by over-enthusiastic press releases. "Our function is to improve the lot of small businesses, many of which were going bankrupt this spring," he says.

Ross Davies

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## Property snag ends Maxwell bid for Oyez Press

14-00000

1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 26



This document includes particulars given in compliance with the regulations of The Council of The Stock Exchange for the purpose of giving information with regard to Edinburgh General Insurance Services Limited ("the Company"). The Directors of the Company have taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated herein are true and accurate in all material respects and that there are no material facts the omission of which would make misleading any statement herein whether of fact or of opinion. All the Directors accept responsibility accordingly.

On 2nd July, 1981 the Company entered into a conditional Agreement for the acquisition of the issued share capital of Andrew & Booth, Limited. This Agreement was approved at an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company held on 21st July, 1981 and is now conditional only on the Council of The Stock Exchange admitting

the whole of the Company's share capital (both in issue and to be issued pursuant to the acquisition and to the rights issue described herein) to the Official List. This document has been prepared so far as possible on the basis that the Agreement will become unconditional and be completed on 24th July, 1981 and that the shares comprised in the rights issue have been subscribed in full.

These particulars are issued in connection with the placing of 6,233,333 shares pursuant to the acquisition. Shares are available to the public through the market. Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the whole of the share capital of the Company (both in issue and to be issued pursuant to the acquisition and to the rights issue) to be admitted to the Official List.

# EDINBURGH GENERAL INSURANCE SERVICES LIMITED

(Incorporated in Scotland under the Companies Act 1948—No. 40699)



This document is published in connection with the acquisition of

## ANDREW & BOOTH, LIMITED

### SHARE CAPITAL

Authorised  
£2,500,000

in 25,000,000 Ordinary Shares of 10p each

Issued and  
fully paid  
£2,177,683.90

### INDEBTEDNESS

At the close of business on 16th June, 1981—

(a) the Existing Group had outstanding:

- (i) a loan of a principal amount of £100,000 repayable on 29th January, 1982 and secured by floating charges;
- (ii) commitments under hire-purchase and leasing agreements amounting in aggregate to £88,206;
- (iii) unsecured overdraft indebtedness of £19,290;
- (iv) contingent liabilities not exceeding £127,000 in aggregate in connection with undertakings related to the underwriting membership of Lloyd's of certain executives;

(b) the A&B Group had outstanding a loan of a principal amount of £350,000, repayable in January, 1984 and secured by first legal charges over various freehold and long leasehold properties.

Save as aforesaid and apart from intra-Group liabilities, no company in the Enlarged Group had outstanding on that date any loan capital (whether issued or created but unissued), mortgages, charges, debentures or other securities or indebtedness in the nature of borrowing, including bank overdrafts and liabilities under acceptance credits, hire-purchase commitments or guarantees (other than the guarantees in the ordinary course of business) or other material contingent liabilities.

### DIRECTORS AND ADVISERS

#### Directors

**DANE PETER DOUETIL**  
(Chairman and Chief Executive)  
Busbridge Lakes House, Godalming, Surrey GU8 4AY.

**EDWARD WILLINGHAM COOK (USA)**  
855 Ridge Lake Boulevard, Memphis, Tennessee 38117, USA.

**JAMES WILLIAM CRYSTAL (USA)**  
33 East 70th Street, New York 10021, USA.

**PETER BERNARD MEARA**  
38 Eaton Terrace, London SW1W 8TS

**EUGENE PATRY (Switzerland)**  
11 bis Rue Toepffer, 1206 Geneva, Switzerland.

**ALISTAIR JAMES WISHART FALCONER WALLACE**  
The Manor Farm House, Damerham, Fordingbridge, Hampshire SP6 3HN.

#### Proposed Director

**PHILIP FREDERICK BIRD**  
31 The Deerings, Harpenden, Hertfordshire AL5 2BF.

#### Secretary and Head Office

**MALCOLM CLIVE GREEN**  
Staple Hall, Stone House Court, London EC3A 7ED.

#### Financial Advisers

**HAMBROS BANK LIMITED**  
41 Bishopsgate, London EC2P 2AA

#### Principal Bankers

**COUTTS & CO.**  
15 Lombard Street, London EC3Y 9AY

**MIDLAND BANK LIMITED**  
140 Leadenhall Street, London EC3Y 4PS.

#### BARCLAYS BANK LIMITED

29 The Broadway, Joel Street, Northwood, Middlesex HA6 1NY.

#### Brokers

**ROWE & PITMAN**  
City Gate House, 39/45 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1JA and The Stock Exchange

#### Solicitors

**NORTON, ROSE, BOTTERELL & ROCHE**  
Kempson House, Camomile Street, London EC3A 7AN.

#### Auditors of the Company and Reporting Accountants on the A&B Group

**NEVILLE RUSSELL & CO. Chartered Accountants**  
30 Artillery Lane, Bishopsgate, London E1 7LT.

#### Registrars and Registered Office

**BANK OF SCOTLAND**  
26a York Place, Edinburgh EH1 3EY.

### DEFINITIONS

The following definitions are used in this document:

"the Company" — Edinburgh General Insurance Services Limited  
"A&B" — Andrew & Booth, Limited  
"the A&B Group" — A&B and its subsidiaries  
"the Existing Group" — the Company and its subsidiaries prior to the acquisition of A&B  
"the Enlarged Group" — the Company and its subsidiaries following the acquisition of A&B  
"MRW" — Maynard, Wallace & Bell Agencies Limited  
"Hambros" — Hambros Bank Limited

### PARTICULARS OF THE ENLARGED GROUP

#### 1. HISTORY AND BUSINESS

##### (a) The Company

The Company was incorporated in Scotland in 1964. Hitherto it has been the holding company for the Existing Group. On 2nd July, 1981 it entered into a conditional Agreement for the acquisition of A&B which, it is expected will be completed on 24th July, 1981.

##### (b) The Existing Group

The principal subsidiaries in the Existing Group carry on business as reinsurers and insurance brokers and underwriting agents in the London market generally and in particular at Lloyd's.

##### Broking Activities

The principal broking subsidiary is MRW, which was established in 1961 and is a Lloyd's broker. It handles a substantial volume of reinsurance business on a worldwide basis and specialises in excess loss and proportional treaty business, as well as handling a considerable facultative account. The other Lloyd's broker in the Existing Group is EGIS (International) Limited (formerly EGIS (North America) Limited), which started handling North American business in 1980 and currently specialises in aviation business. Maynard, Wallace & Bell Agencies Limited was established in 1977 and handles most aspects of insurance, with particular emphasis on marine cargo business. Meara Gibson Limited, the business of which was established in 1978 and which was acquired by the Company in 1979, handles direct UK industrial and commercial insurance business, together with mortgage and life and pension contracts. Afro-Arab Insurance Services Limited was formed in 1979 to handle business emanating from Africa and the Arab world, which previously had been handled by an associated company. The Existing Group has a 49 per cent. interest in European Reinsurance Brokers Limited, a joint company formed in 1967 in partnership with Bulstar, the Bulgarian State Insurance and Reinsurance Company, to handle its marine and aviation reinsurance.

##### Underwriting Activities

Cullum Underwriting Agencies Limited, established in 1970, is the Existing Group's most profitable subsidiary. It has recently become the exclusive representative in the London market as contact office for ADAS, the Community State Insurance Company, having previously acted for ADAS on a non-exclusive basis. It is run by a specialised underwriting advisory team which handles London market excess of loss insurance. Negotiations are in progress for ADAS to purchase 50 per cent. of the equity of the subsidiary with effect from 1st January, 1982. The Company is reasonably confident that arrangements will be negotiated whereby the Existing Group will continue to receive income from this source of no less amount than it receives at present.

Maynard Wallace & Bell Agencies Limited, a Lloyd's underwriting agency established in 1975, manages a marine syndicate and acts as a members' agent on a sub-underwriting basis. The Existing Group is re-arranging its interest in this subsidiary by procuring that it transfers its role as managing agent to the underwriter, who in return is surrendering its 49 per cent. interest in the Company; it is not expected that the Existing Group will suffer any material loss of income from this development. Maynard Wallace & Bell Agencies Limited, established in 1977, is also a Lloyd's underwriting agency company which manages both aviation and non-marine syndicates. The long-term future of these two subsidiaries within the Existing Group may be affected by the Lloyd's Bill, currently before Parliament, when it is eventually enacted.

##### (c) The A&B Group

A&B was incorporated in 1932 and in January 1975 was purchased by Mr. A. J. W. F. Wallace, Mr. P. F. Bird and their associates. The A&B Group is now one of the country's leading high street insurance brokers. It specialises in motor insurance, which accounts for the predominant part of its business, but it offers a wide range of insurance broking services to individual and corporate clients. A&B has 46 branches situated in principal towns of England, Scotland and Wales, with its head office at Northwood, Middlesex. A&B has recently acquired for a nominal sum the issued share capital of two associated insurance broking companies operating from the same office in Aberdeen and which are currently expected to show a net asset deficit of £50,000 as at 16th June, 1981. A&B has excellent long-standing relationships with insurance companies as well as with many of the motor underwriting syndicates at Lloyd's, and it is thus able to provide a competitive and comprehensive service for its clients. Since 1975 the Company, through its wholly-owned subsidiary MRW, has had a trading relationship with A&B, as explained in "Reasons for the Acquisition" below. The long-term future of these two subsidiaries within the Existing Group may be affected by the Lloyd's Bill, currently before Parliament, when it is eventually enacted.

A&B has recently applied to the Insurance Brokers Registration Council for registration under the Insurance Brokers Registration Act 1977.

The A&B Group holds two parcels of land suitable for residential development and has a small contracting building subsidiary, Curlew Construction Limited, which carries out contract work in South Wales on a restricted scale. It is not intended to expand these activities.

##### (d) Reasons for the Acquisition of A&B

Through MRW the Group has had a strong trading connection with A&B since 1974. This connection arose because A&B, which is not at Lloyd's, cannot place motor business with Lloyd's syndicates direct unless the premiums are guaranteed by a Lloyd's broker; and in 1974 MRW agreed to become the guaranteeing broker for business placed with certain motor syndicates. This relationship still exists, although not on an exclusive basis, and provides a profitable source of income for MRW.

In recent years motor premiums have enjoyed an enviable record of keeping pace with inflation. Even during the 1970's, when stringent price controls applied, the motor insurers had their case accepted for premium increases to operate prospectively rather than retrospectively. A&B's income, derived as it is from commissions on motor premiums, has thus been protected from inflation. Moreover, as it is from commissions on motor premiums that A&B has demonstrated its ability to expand in the field of high street motor broking, both organically and by acquisition, and to keep tight control of administrative costs. All these factors have contributed to an impressive growth in turnover and profits, as shown in the Accountants' Report in "Financial Information" below. The Directors of the Company consider that the high street motor insurance broking field will continue to be a growth area.

A&B is one of the leading companies in motor insurance broking and the one with the greatest geographical spread of retail outlets. Since A&B's business is confined to Great Britain, it does not have to contend with unpredictable foreign regulation, with overseas economic crises or with changes of income arising in one currency and expenditure having to be met in another. Moreover, since numerous individual premiums are paid, almost exclusively in cash, A&B has minimal financing problems and is not exposed to the risks of major bad debts or of the loss of major customers.

For all these reasons the acquisition of A&B will represent a source of strength and stability to the Group, whose traditional existing businesses, in common with those of other London insurance broking groups, depend to a large extent on the income from commissions. While geographical diversification has obvious advantages, nevertheless the currently unsettled economic and political conditions in many countries make it particularly desirable that the Group, through the acquisition of A&B, should now reduce its exposure to exchange rate fluctuations.

### 2. DIRECTORS, MANAGEMENT AND STAFF

#### (a) Directors of the Company

##### Executive Directors

Mr. D. P. Douetil, Chairman and Chief Executive (aged 50), has worked in Lloyd's for 30 years, for 27 of which he was with one of the leading firms of Lloyd's and international brokers, for the last five of those years as Chief Executive. He joined the Existing Group in April 1979 as Chief Executive and became Chairman in July 1980.

Mr. A. J. W. F. Wallace (aged 45), has spent 24 years in the insurance industry, the major part of which has been with MRW, of which he is currently Chairman. He also has special responsibility for the underwriting activities of the Existing Group. Since 1975 he has been Chairman of A&B.

Mr. P. F. Bird (aged 44), who is to become a Director on completion of the acquisition of A&B, has spent 23 years in the insurance industry, he became a Director of A&B in 1973 and its Chief Executive (initially on a joint basis) in 1975.

##### Non-Executive Directors

Mr. E. W. Cook is Chairman and principal shareholder of Cook Industries Inc., of Memphis, Tennessee. Cook Industries Inc., which has substantial insurance interests and a wholly-owned subsidiary of which, Masecom S.A., acquired a significant shareholding in the Company in May 1980, represents an important source of support for the Existing Group, particularly in aviation reinsurance. Mr. Cook was appointed a Director of the Company in May 1980.

Mr. J. W. Crystal was appointed a Director in July, 1979. He is President and proprietor of Frank Crystal Inc., a firm of American insurance brokers with strong connections with Lloyd's and the London market going back over two generations.

Mr. P. B. Meara was appointed a Director in July, 1979, when Meara Gibson Limited was acquired. At that time he was its Chief Executive and now is its non-executive Deputy-Chairman.

Mr. E. Patry, a Director of Masecom S.A., was appointed a Director of the Company in July, 1980.

#### (b) Senior Executives of the Existing Group

Mr. D. E. Barnett (aged 43), has been Chief Executive of MRW since June, 1975, having joined it in July, 1974 after spending 20 years with another firm of Lloyd's brokers.

Mr. I. D. S. Gibson (aged 40), is Chief Executive of Meara Gibson Limited, having spent 41 years with it and its predecessor company. This followed 19 years with Commercial Union Assurance Company Limited.

Mr. M. C. Green (aged 44), was appointed Secretary of the Company in May, 1980, having joined MRW in March 1965. In recent years he has had responsibility for MRW's accounting records.

Mr. A. J. Hughes (aged 37) joined the Existing Group on the formation of Maynard, Wallace & Bell Agencies Limited in 1977 when he was made Chief Executive of that company, having previously had 15 years' experience as a senior broker with prominent firms of brokers handling cargo, general marine and all risks business.

Mr. G. A. P. Leigh-Pollitt (aged 43), a Chartered Accountant, joined the Existing Group in June, 1980, as Group Chief Accountant. He was employed for the previous 18 years by a firm of international accountants, for the last 12 of them as a senior manager.

Mr. L. R. Sawyer (aged 34), joined MRW in March, 1967 as a broker, specialising in marine business. He assisted in the formation of Cullum Underwriting Agencies Limited and was appointed Marine Underwriter and Director in February 1974 and Managing Director in 1975.

Mr. D. F. Tyler (aged 39), joined EGIS (International) Limited in July, 1980. He was appointed Chief Executive in January 1981, having over 22 years' experience of dealing with insurance in the aviation industry. In the 11 years before joining the Existing Group he specialised in general aviation insurance and reinsurance broking.

#### (c) Existing Group Staff

The Existing Group has approximately 100 other employees, of whom approximately half are engaged in broking, underwriting and technical support, with the remainder concerned with administrative and accounting functions. Virtually all the staff are located in offices in the City of London and its immediate vicinity.

#### (d) A&B Directors

The Board of A&B consists of Mr. A. J. W. F. Wallace and Mr. P. F. Bird (see above) and the following individuals:

Mr. R. W. J. Perrowe (aged 39), is an Executive Director. He has been in the insurance business for 20 years and with A&B since 1971. He became a Director in 1977.

Mr. B. M. Hardy (aged 30) is a registered insurance broker and has been with A&B since 1971. He is A&B's marketing sales manager and was appointed a Director in May 1981.

Mr. F. G. Maynard (aged 56), has been a non-executive Director of A&B since 1978, but will resign as a Director on completion of the acquisition of the issued share capital of A&B by the Company.

#### (e) Senior Executives of the A&B Group

Mr. G. Carrington (aged 49), is a Chartered Secretary and a member of the Institute of Administrative Accountants.

Mr. S. P. Kall (aged 48), is the Managing Director of the building subsidiary, Curlew Construction Limited, which he joined in 1967. He has been in the construction industry since 1953.

#### (f) A&B Group Staff

The A&B Group has approximately 225 employees. Each branch has a manager responsible for its administration and the development of its business. Group management and accounting are centralised in the head office at Northwood, which is staffed by some 30 employees.

### FINANCIAL INFORMATION

#### 1. PROFITS, PROSPECTS AND DIVIDENDS

The vendors of A&B have warranted to the Company that the profits before taxation (subject to a minor adjustment) of the A&B Group for the current financial year ending 31st December, 1981 will be not less than £500,000. This amount would represent an increase of 30 per cent. over the profits for 1980 and would continue the trend of profit growth experienced by A&B over the five years to 1980. The warranted figure does not represent a forecast of the 1981 profits of the A&B Group. The Agreement provides that, in the event of the 1981 profits falling below the warranted figure, the vendors will make a payment to the Company calculated by reference to a scale set out in "Terms of the Acquisition of A&B" in "Statutory and General Information" below.

As regards the Existing Group, the accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1980 showed a loss, primarily because of the difficulties experienced by EGIS (International) Limited (formerly EGIS (North America) Limited). Towards the end of that year the Directors decided that the factors which contributed to these difficulties were likely to persist, and that subsidiary's former operations have been wound down, with consequent redundancy costs. The Existing Group has started 1981 satisfactorily and the Directors are confident that this represents a sustainable improvement on the situation which prevailed during 1980. The continued recovery of the Existing Group should be aided by the upward movement of the US dollar, in which currency a significant proportion of its income is earned.

Taking these factors into account and in the absence of unforeseen circumstances, the Directors expect the Company will pay dividends for the current financial year totalling 1p net per share on the enlarged capital. This will be made up as to 0.3p as an interim dividend payable in December 1981 and a final dividend of 0.7p payable in or about July 1982.

#### 2. RIGHTS ISSUE AND WORKING CAPITAL

Subject to the Council of The Stock Exchange admitting the whole of the Company's share capital (both in issue and to be issued pursuant to the acquisition and to the rights issue described herein) to the Official List, the Directors propose that the Company should raise additional permanent capital by means of a rights issue of 2,814,502 new Ordinary Shares of 10p each at 18p per share payable in full on acceptance by 4th August, 1981. The rights issue has been underwritten by Hambros. Existing holders of Ordinary Shares will be entitled to subscribe for new Ordinary Shares on the basis of 1 new Ordinary Share for every 2 Ordinary Shares held at the close of business on 30th June, 1981.

The net proceeds of the rights issue will amount to approximately £286,000 (after the deduction of such of the expenses of the issue and of the other transactions described in this document, estimated to amount to £21,000, as are payable by the Company) and will be applied as additional working capital for the Enlarged Group. The Directors are satisfied that, with the bank facilities which will be available and with the net proceeds of the rights issue, the Enlarged Group will have sufficient working capital for its present requirements.

#### 3. PRO-FORMA STATEMENT OF THE COMBINED NET ASSETS OF THE ENLARGED GROUP

The pro-forma statement of the combined net assets of the Enlarged Group set out below has been prepared from the audited consolidated balance sheets of the Existing Group and of the A&B Group, in each case as at 31st December, 1980:

	The Existing Group	The A&B Group	Adjustments	Pro-forma Consolidated Balance Sheet
<b>Employment of Capital</b>				
Fixed Assets	273,216	765,555	61,709 <sup>(1)</sup>	1,100,480
Investments	30,585	10,200	—	40,785
Interests in Associated Companies	8,075	—	—	8,075
	311,876	775,755	61,709	1,149,340
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Stocks and work in progress	—	172,012	—	172,012
Secured debtors	—	12,083	—	12,083
Debtors and prepayments	8,503,721	326,768	—	8,830,489
Amounts due from associated companies	35,620	—	—	35,620
Deposits, balances at bank and cash in hand	1,792,423	1,932,303	286,000 <sup>(2)</sup>	4,010,726
	10,338,764	2,453,063	286,000	13,077,850
<b>Current Liabilities</b>				
Creditors and accruals	9,897,565	2,007,401	—	11,904,966
Taxation	—	207,238	—	207,238
Loan (secured)	—	150,000	—	150,000
Bank overdrafts	—	44,761	—	44,761
	9,913,184	2,408,400	—	12,321,584
<b>Net Current Assets</b>	425,580	43,626	286,000	755,206
	737,456	819,381	347,709	1,904,546
<b>Less:</b>				
Loan (secured)	—	350,000	—	350,000
Secured debtors	—	30,660	—	30,660
Minority interests	—	11,519	—	11,519
	—	392,179	—	392,179
<b>Net Tangible Assets</b>	737,456	427,202	347,709	1,512,367
<b>Capital Employed and Goodwill</b>				
Share Capital	562,900	100,000	1,514,783 <sup>(3)</sup>	2,177,683
Share Premium Account	564,150	—	1,071,317 <sup>(4)</sup>	1,635,467
Reserves	17,743	480,207	(480,207) <sup>(5)</sup>	17,743
	1,144,793	580,207	2,105,793	3,830,793
<b>Less: Goodwill</b>				
(i) At 31st December, 1980	440,292	141,486	—	581,778
(ii) Arising on acquisition of A&B Group	—	—	1,758,084 <sup>(6)</sup>	1,758,084
	440,292	141,486	1,758,084	2,339,862
	704,501	438,721	347,709	1,490,931

(1) to (6) see notes on page 24



## Edinburgh General Insurance Services Limited (cont.)

## NOTES

The Pro-Forma Consolidated Balance Sheet is only intended as a guide to the future Group consolidation of the Existing Group and the A&B Group. For the purpose of illustration it has been assumed that the acquisition took place at 31st December, 1980, although it will take place in July 1981. The Pro-Forma Consolidation has been prepared using the following assumptions and after making the following adjustments:

- In accordance with the Statement of Standard Accounting Practice No. 14, the assets of the A&B Group have been revalued as at the date of acquisition by £61,709.
- The gross proceeds of the rights issue will amount to £286,610, which, after deducting the estimated expenses of the issue, will provide the Existing Group with additional working capital of £228,000.
- The adjustment of £1,514,783 to share capital is made up as follows:—  
 Issue of 12,333,333 Ordinary Shares of 10p each to the vendors of A&B .. 1,333,333  
 Issue of 2,814,502 Ordinary Shares of 10p each under the rights issue .. 181,450  
 Less: Share Capital of A&B eliminated on consolidation .. 100,000  
 £1,514,783
- The increase of £1,071,217 in the Share Premium Account is made up as follows:—  
 Premium of 8p per share on the issue of—  
 12,333,333 shares issued to the vendors of A&B .. 1,066,667  
 2,814,502 shares issued under the rights issue .. 235,100  
 Less costs of issue (including for this purpose the Reporting accounts costs) .. 230,610  
 £1,071,217
- The adjustment of £480,207 to the Reserves is in respect of the elimination on consolidation of the A&B Group's pre-acquisition profits.
- The premium arising on acquisition is calculated as follows:—  
 Purchase price for the A&B Group .. 100,000  
 Less: A&B Group's Share Capital .. 100,000  
 A&B Group's Reserves .. 480,207  
 Surplus arising on revaluation of Fixed Assets .. 61,709  
 £481,916

## 4. ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON ANDREW &amp; BOOTH, LIMITED

The following is a copy of the Report of Messrs. Neville Russell & Co., Chartered Accountants:—  
 The Directors,  
 Edinburgh General Insurance Services Limited,  
 Staple Hall,  
 Stone House Court,  
 London EC3A 7ED

2nd July, 1981

## I. INTRODUCTION

- (i) We have examined the audited financial statements of Andrew & Booth, Limited (A&B) and of its subsidiary companies (collectively referred to in this report as the A&B Group) for the five years ended 31st December, 1980.
- (ii) The summaries set out in paragraphs II to IV below are based on the audited financial statements after making such adjustments as we consider appropriate.
- (iii) The financial statements of the A&B Group were audited by Messrs Messon Makinson Smith & Co., who have expressed an unqualified opinion in respect of each of the five years ended 31st December, 1980.
- (iv) In our opinion the summarized financial statements in paragraphs II to IV which have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of certain fixed assets, give a true and fair view of the profit of the A&B Group and of the assets and application of funds for the five years ended 31st December, 1980 and of the state of affairs of A&B and the A&B Group at 31st December, 1980.
- (v) Supplementary current cost information together with the basis of preparation is set out in Section V of this report.
- (vi) In our opinion the abridged supplementary current cost statements for the year ended 31st December, 1980 have been properly prepared in accordance with the policies and methods set out in Section V of this report and give the information required by Statement of Standard Accounting Practice No. 16.
- (vii) No audited financial statements of A&B or of any of its subsidiaries have been made up in respect of any period subsequent to 31st December, 1980.

## II. PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS—THE A&amp;B GROUP

	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
Turnover .. .. .	799,747	1,039,985	1,426,198	1,636,975	2,099,701
Expenditure .. .. .	715,017	937,212	1,262,816	1,335,436	1,682,641
Net profit before taxation exceptional items and extraordinary items .. .. .	84,730	102,773	163,382	300,939	417,060
Exceptional Items .. .. .	—	—	(20,617)	25,935	—
Net profit before taxation and extraordinary items .. .. .	84,730	102,773	142,765	326,894	417,060
Taxation (charge) .. .. .	—	(11,056)	(33,355)	(46,639)	(202,156)
Profit after taxation but before extraordinary items .. .. .	84,730	91,717	109,410	280,255	214,904
Extraordinary items .. .. .	—	—	—	—	(21,774)
Profit for the year carried to reserves .. .. .	84,730	91,717	109,410	280,255	193,130
Earnings per share .. .. .	84.7p	91.7p	89.4p	280.3p	214.9p

## III. BALANCE SHEETS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1980

	Notes	The A&B Group	A&B
Fixed Assets .. .. .	10	763,555	678,139
Goodwill .. .. .	11	141,486	135,632
Investments .. .. .	12	10,200	7,500
Investments in Subsidiaries .. .. .	13	45,719	45,719
Current Assets .. .. .		917,241	864,190
Stock and work-in-progress .. .. .	14	172,012	—
Secured debtors .. .. .	15	22,003	22,003
Debtors and prepayments .. .. .		326,788	213,445
Short term deposits .. .. .		1,534,225	1,185,109
Group indebtedness .. .. .		273,036	273,036
Bank and cash balances .. .. .		98,078	32,747
Current Liabilities .. .. .		2,453,086	1,726,358
Amounts due to insurance companies .. .. .		1,784,368	1,373,784
Taxation .. .. .		207,298	106,045
Creditors and accruals .. .. .		223,033	143,440
Group indebtedness .. .. .		130,000	30,980
Loan (secured) .. .. .	16	44,761	42,150
Bank overdraft .. .. .		2,409,460	1,846,399
Net Current Assets/(Liabilities) .. .. .		48,626	(120,041)
Less: .. .. .		980,867	744,149
Loan (secured) .. .. .	16	330,000	330,000
Deferred taxation .. .. .	17	30,660	28,740
Provision for losses of a subsidiary company .. .. .	18	—	2,919
.. .. .		380,660	361,639
.. .. .		£580,207	£362,490

## IV. STATEMENT OF SOURCE AND APPLICATION OF FUNDS—THE A&amp;B GROUP

	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
Source of Funds .. .. .					
Operations .. .. .					
Profit before taxation and extraordinary items .. .. .	84,730	102,773	142,765	326,894	417,060
Extraordinary items—legal and professional costs .. .. .	—	—	—	—	(21,774)
.. .. .	84,730	102,773	142,765	326,894	389,286
Adjustments for items not involving the movement of funds .. .. .					
Depreciation .. .. .	21,041	27,238	37,042	53,900	41,157
Profit on disposal of freehold property .. .. .	—	—	—	(37,262)	—
Loss on disposal of investments .. .. .	—	—	21,968	(413)	—
Total Generated from Operations .. .. .	105,771	130,011	201,775	343,119	430,443
Funds from Other Sources .. .. .					
Long-term loan .. .. .	—	—	—	500,000	—
Sale of fixed assets .. .. .	3,330	9,195	25,247	194,720	2,306
Sale of investments .. .. .	—	—	4,706	(1,078)	79,110
Reduction in secured debts .. .. .	—	—	—	—	(7,457)
.. .. .	109,101	149,212	225,944	1,102,967	425,192
Application of Funds .. .. .					
Purchase of fixed assets .. .. .	(53,385)	(146,274)	(242,771)	(136,305)	(102,707)
Taxation paid .. .. .	(849)	(6,779)	(17,713)	(51,907)	(35,897)
Purchase of goodwill of agencies .. .. .	(18,564)	(4,324)	(26,104)	(34,696)	(32,216)
Purchase of investments .. .. .	—	(25,996)	(57,880)	(2,700)	—
Increase/(Decrease) in Working Capital .. .. .	£37,152	£(33,731)	£(105,590)	£890,953	£228,362
Represented by Changes in: .. .. .					
Debtors .. .. .	(24,091)	84,640	(12,783)	124,863	19,011
Amounts due to insurance companies .. .. .	(111,613)	(143,673)	(241,818)	(267,889)	(355,897)
Stock and work-in-progress .. .. .	35,093	(16,710)	(31,477)	80,836	(6,286)
Creditors .. .. .	26,176	(26,460)	7,217	(88,421)	7,511
.. .. .	(74,435)	(102,203)	(278,861)	(150,611)	(335,671)
Movement in net liquid funds: .. .. .					
Bank and cash balances and bank overdraft .. .. .	76,587	28,472	3,271	10,792	30,380
Short term deposits .. .. .	35,000	40,000	170,000	1,030,772	553,453
.. .. .	£37,152	£(33,731)	£(105,590)	£890,953	£228,362

## NOTES

## 1. Basis of consolidation

The consolidated accounts include the accounts of A&B and all its subsidiaries made up to 31st December in each year.

## 2. Accounting policies

- (a) Commencement:  
 (i) Direct non-life business  
 Premiums and commissions thereon are credited when the client is charged.  
 (ii) Life business  
 Initial commission is credited in full on receipt of confirmation from insurance companies. Renewal commission is credited on receipt of cash.  
 (b) Depreciation  
 Depreciation of fixed assets is provided so as to write off the cost or valuation of the assets over the estimated periods of use on the following bases:—  
 Long leasehold property .. .. . 2 per cent. of cost (since 1st January, 1979), in equal instalments over the period of the lease.  
 Short term lease .. .. . 20 per cent. of cost.  
 Construction equipment .. .. . 20 per cent. of cost.  
 Furniture, fixtures and fittings .. .. . 15 per cent. of the reducing balance.  
 Office equipment .. .. . 20 per cent. of valuation and cost.  
 Motor vehicles .. .. . 12.5 to 25 per cent. of cost.  
 (c) Stock and work-in-progress  
 Stock and work-in-progress, including land held for development, are stated at the lower of cost and estimated net realisable value.  
 (d) Deferred taxation  
 The A&B Group provides for deferred taxation using the liability method in respect of taxation deferred by accelerated capital allowances and other timing differences, except where, in the opinion of the directors, the liability to tax is unlikely to arise in the foreseeable future.

	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
Turnover .. .. .	799,747	1,039,985	1,426,198	1,636,975	2,099,701
Commission receivable in respect of business placed during the year .. .. .	707,265	882,548	1,163,940	1,451,458	1,778,042
Construction and building work-in-progress during the year .. .. .	92,482	157,737	262,258	184,917	321,659
.. .. .	£299,747	£1,039,985	£1,426,198	£1,636,975	£2,099,701

	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
Net profit before taxation, exceptional items and extraordinary items .. .. .	84,730	102,773	142,765	326,894	417,060
Net profit before taxation, exceptional items and extraordinary items after charging: .. .. .					
Provision for depreciation .. .. .	21,041	27,238	37,042	53,900	41,157
Provision for losses of a subsidiary company .. .. .	—	—	—	—	2,919
Directors' remuneration .. .. .	54,144	49,977	81,330	79,399	61,204
Bank and other interest .. .. .	3,485	2,651	1,614	1,154	1,022,271
Dividend received .. .. .	—	—	—	4,888	—
.. .. .	14,970	(2,600)	9,185	14,169	17,736
.. .. .	18,568	22,613	43,517	9,257	512,769
.. .. .	—	—	—	—	4,888

## 3. Exceptional Items

- Exceptional Items comprise:—  
 Provision for reduction in value of investments .. .. . (20,617)  
 Profit on sale of freehold properties .. .. . 25,935  
 Legal costs of issue .. .. . (4,324)  
 .. .. . £(20,617) £25,935

	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
Net profit before taxation and extraordinary items .. .. .	84,730	102,773	142,765	326,894	417,060
The net profit before taxation is derived from the following activities: .. .. .					
Insurance broking .. .. .	57,108	101,388	154,126	324,588	413,982
Building and construction .. .. .	(2,378)	1,388	(11,361)	1,906	3,078
.. .. .	£54,730	£102,773	£142,765	£326,894	£417,060

	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
Taxation (charge) .. .. .	—	(11,056)	(33,355)	(46,639)	(202,156)
The taxation charge comprises: .. .. .					
United Kingdom Corporation Tax at 33 per cent. on the profit for the year .. .. .	—	(11,056)	(33,355)	(46,639)	(171,496)
Deferred taxation .. .. .	—	—	—	—	(30,660)
.. .. .	—	(11,056)	(33,355)	(46,639)	(202,156)
Losses available for relief against future trading profits amount to approximately .. .. .	£478,000	£370,000	£280,000	£325,000	£112,000

## 4. Extraordinary items

In the year ended 31st December, 1980 the extraordinary items comprise legal and professional costs incurred in connection with an offer for the whole of the share capital of A&B, which ultimately was not proceeded with.

## 5. Earnings per share

The calculation of earnings per share is based on the profits after taxation before extraordinary items and on 100,000 Ordinary Shares of 10p each, being the number of Ordinary Shares in issue after the proposed reconstruction (see Note 19).

	The A&B Group 31st December, 1980	A&B 31st December, 1980
Freehold property .. .. .	448,571	448,571
Leasehold property .. .. .	196,132	196,132
Furniture, office and other equipment .. .. .	187,824	187,824
Motor vehicles .. .. .	59,162	59,162
.. .. .	£891,689	£891,689
Cost .. .. .	813,288	813,288
Valuation .. .. .	203,000	203,000
.. .. .	£916,288	£916,288

Capital of the property was professionally valued on the basis of open market value with no discount for any minority interest. The valuation was carried out by Messrs. Thompson & Moultin, Chartered Surveyors, at 5th March, 1979 at £1,356,000 and subsequently confirmed on 21st May, 1981, that where these properties are sold the above values have not depreciated.

## 11. Goodwill

Goodwill is stated at cost and represents amounts paid for the acquisition of certain insurance broking businesses.

	The A&B Group	A&B
Investments comprise: .. .. .		
Mortgage loan, repayable 1988 .. .. .	£10,200	£7,500

## 13. Investments in Subsidiaries

The investments at 31st December, 1980 are stated at cost less amounts written off and comprise the whole of the share capital of the following principal subsidiary which is registered in England unless otherwise noted, together with the whole of the share capital of fourteen dormant subsidiaries:—  
 Andrew & Booth (Life & Pension) Limited  
 Arthur Edwards (Insurance) Limited  
 Corder Construction Limited  
 Dixon Kerr and Company Limited (registered in Scotland).

	A&B
Share at cost .. .. .	123,944
Amounts written off .. .. .	(78,225)
.. .. .	£45,719

## 14. Stock and work-in-progress

Stock and work-in-progress relate entirely to the building subsidiary and comprise:—  
 Freehold land held for development at cost .. .. . 76,587  
 Raw materials at cost .. .. . 45,418  
 Work-in-progress at net realisable value .. .. . 86,031  
 .. .. . £172,012

## 15. Secured debtors

The secured debtors comprise judgment debts due by former directors and by businesses and companies of which they are partners. Execution has been obtained pending the realisation of certain capital assets of the debtors. A&B has secured the debts by legal charges on various freehold properties.

The loan is subject to interest at rates varying between 2 per cent. and 3 per cent. over base rate and is repayable as follows:

	The A&B Group and A&B
1981 .. .. .	150,000
1984 .. .. .	350,000
.. .. .	£500,000

## 17. Deferred taxation

	The A&B Group 31st December, 1980	A&B 31st December, 1980
Deferred taxation comprise: .. .. .		
Accelerated capital allowances .. .. .	73,060	71,160
Other timing differences .. .. .	6,440	4,520
Losses carried forward .. .. .	(48,440)	(47,540)
.. .. .	£30,660	£28,140

No provision for deferred taxation on chargeable gains has been made in the Group on the revaluation of fixed assets as in the opinion of the directors any potential liability will be covered by rollover relief on the purchases of capital assets within the Group. The potential liability is estimated not to exceed £25,000.

## 18. Provision for losses of a subsidiary company

A&B has made provision for the accumulated losses of a subsidiary which A&B has agreed to support.

## 19. Share capital

At 31st December, 1980 the share capital of A&B was as follows:  
 Authorized, issued and fully paid: 100,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each .. £100,000

It is proposed that the authorized share capital will be increased to £101,000 by the creation of 10,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each. The £10,000 increase will be covered by the conversion of £10,000 of the existing 100,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each into 100,000 Deferred Shares of £1 each.

	The A&B Group 31st December, 1980	A&B 31st December, 1980
Reserves comprise: .. .. .		
Capital reserves .. .. .	80,212	71,124
Profit and loss account .. .. .	599,985	191,366
.. .. .	£680,207	£262,490

The capital reserve arose on the revaluation of property at 31st December, 1978.

## 21. Capital commitments

There were no capital commitments at 31st December, 1980.

## 22. Contingent liabilities

There were no contingent liabilities at 31st December, 1980.

## V. A&amp;B GROUP CURRENT COST STATEMENTS

## Current Cost Profit and Loss Account

Year ended 31st December, 1980

	Notes	
Historical cost profit before taxation	.. .. .	417,060
Current cost operating adjustment	.. .. .	
Depreciation	.. .. . 1	15,480
Current cost operating profit	.. .. .	401,570
Gearing adjustment	.. .. . 2	6,049
Current cost profit before taxation and extraordinary item	.. .. .	407,619
Taxation	.. .. .	202,156
Current cost profit after taxation and before extraordinary item	.. .. .	205,463
Less Extraordinary item	.. .. .	21,774
Current cost profit carried to reserves	.. .. .	177,689
Current cost earnings per share	.. .. .	205.4p
<b>Current Cost Balance Sheet</b>		
At 31st December, 1980		
<b>Employment of capital</b>		
Fixed assets	.. .. . 3	827,264
Investments	.. .. .	10,200
Net current assets	.. .. .	43,625
		881,090
Deferred tax	.. .. .	30,660
Net operating assets	.. .. .	850,430
Goodwill	.. .. . 4	141,486
		991,916
Less: Net borrowings, being long term loan	.. .. .	350,000
		641,916
<b>Capital Employed</b>		
Share capital	.. .. .	100,000
Reserves	.. .. . 5	541,916
		641,916







## Stock Exchange Prices

## Signs of a rally

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, July 13. Dealings End, July 23. Settlement Day, July 24. Settlement Day, Aug 3  
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

## PROPERTY INVESTMENT

## Hampton &amp; Sons

01-493 8222

High Low Stock				Price Chg Pence % P/E				Div Yld				1980/81				Price Chg Pence % P/E				Div Yld				1980/81				Price Chg Pence % P/E				Div Yld				1980/81				Price Chg Pence % P/E				Div Yld				1980/81											
BRITISH FUNDS				COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL				FINANCIAL TRUSTS				INSURANCE				INVESTMENT TRUSTS				PROPERTY				RUBBER				TEA				MISCELLANEOUS				RECENT ISSUES				RIGHTS ISSUES																			
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## BIRTHS

**ARKELL**—On 19th July 1981, to Jenny (nee Holmes) and Robert Arkell, a daughter, Victoria Jane. Mrs. Arkell is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Arkell, of 10, St. John's Road, London. Mr. and Mrs. Arkell are both teachers. The family are delighted to announce the birth of their first child. The baby is now 10 days old and is doing well. The family are very grateful to all those who have expressed their sympathy and support. The family are now settled in their new home in London.

## DEATHS

**BARRELL**—On 17th July 1981, at the age of 82, after a long illness, Mrs. Mary Barrell, nee Jones, of 10, St. John's Road, London. Mrs. Barrell was a devoted wife and mother. She was predeceased by her husband, John Barrell, who died in 1975. She is survived by her two sons, John and Robert, and her three daughters, Mary, Jane, and Susan. The family are very grateful to all those who have expressed their sympathy and support. The funeral will take place on Friday, July 24th, at 11.00 a.m. from St. John's Church, London. The family are now settled in their new home in London.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THE RED CROSS IS CARE IN ACTION**  
Red Cross volunteers all over the country are working hard to help the needy. They are providing food, clothing, and shelter for those in need. They are also providing medical aid and nursing care. The Red Cross is a voluntary organization and relies on the help of its members and the public. If you would like to help, please contact your local Red Cross branch.

**THE BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY**  
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**WE'RE WORLD LEADERS IN CANCER RESEARCH**  
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**THE CHEST, HEART AND STROKE ASSOCIATION**  
Responded in 1980 to around 15,000 requests for help and advice from people suffering from chest, heart and stroke. The Association is a voluntary organization and relies on the help of its members and the public. If you would like to help, please contact your local branch.

**ASTHMA, CHRONIC BRONCHITIS, EMPHYSEMA, ANGINA, CORONARY THROMBOSIS AND STROKE**  
As compared with 12,000 in 1977, it also expanded considerably its work in STROKE RESEARCH and REHABILITATION. Please help us to help even more by Donating, in Memory, or Gift of Legacy.

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Tavistock House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9SE

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Pinstripe Club. An intimate club for men. Pinstripe Club is a great place to relax and enjoy a drink. It offers a variety of drinks and food. Contact Pinstripe Club for more information.

**WINE AND DINE**  
Hampers. Hampers for all occasions. Hampers are a great way to show your love. They offer a variety of food and drink. Contact Hampers for more information.

**YACHTS AND BOATS**  
Super Sea. Yachts and boats for sale. Super Sea is a great place to buy a yacht or boat. They offer a variety of models and prices. Contact Super Sea for more information.

**SEASONAL SALES**  
Designer clothes sale. Designer clothes at a great price. Designer clothes are a great way to look good. They offer a variety of styles and prices. Contact Designer clothes sale for more information.

**UK HOLIDAYS**  
Newquay Wales. 6 berth chalet available. Newquay Wales is a great place to holiday. It offers a variety of activities and scenery. Contact Newquay Wales for more information.

**SHORT LETS**  
Sloane Square. Luxury modern flat. Sloane Square is a great place to live. It offers a variety of amenities and services. Contact Sloane Square for more information.

**HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS**  
Peru 2228. Peru 2228 is a great place to holiday. It offers a variety of activities and scenery. Contact Peru 2228 for more information.



# Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

## TELEVISION

### BBC1

6.40 Open University: Caste and Class. 7.05 Geographical Energy. 7.30 Mechanical Manipulation. 10.25 Cricket: Live coverage of a second round match in the NatWest Trophy. The winners go forward to the quarter-finals. Commentary by Richie Benaud. Fred Trueman and Tony Lewis. The coverage switches to BBC 2 at 12.30. Highlights of the day's play can be seen, also on BBC 2, tonight at 11.30 pm. Closedown at 12.50 pm.

### BBC 2

6.40 Open University: Materials and their Environment. 7.05 Corrosion in County Clare. 7.30 Viscosity of a Liquid. 10.25 Cricket: The NatWest Bank Trophy. Further live coverage of one of today's second-round matches. More at 5.15. 12.00 Open University: Conflict in the Family. 5.15 Cricket: The NatWest Bank Trophy. The live coverage continues. 5.40 Open University: Living

4.18 Regional news bulletin (not London). 4.20 Play School: Anna Sanderson's story. The Hippo Had Hiccups. Also on BBC 2 at 11.00. 4.25 Litter: story of the wonder dog. Scarecrow (a). 5.10 Think of a Number: Fun with figures. With Johnny Ball (v). 5.40 News: 5.55 Regional news magazines. 6.30 Nationwide: includes a film on the Gloucestershire town of Tetbury, future home of the Prince of Wales and his bride. 7.00 The Royal Tournament: Highlights from the 6th military show at Epsom. Includes a jungle battle staged by the 7th Duke of Edinburgh's own Gurkha Rifles. The grand finale is an action replay of the Battle

Language; 6.05 War and the Media; 6.50 Harris Tweed. 6.55 Six Fifty-five Special: Alan J. Lerner, who wrote the lyrics for My Fair Lady, the musical which is now running in the West End again, calls to Donny MacLeod about his life in music. Liz Robertson, the original Eliza in the present London production, and David Keenan sing songs from the show. 7.30 News: with subtitles for the hard of hearing. 7.50 City: News Grow in Fyke. Now. Film about three elderly women living in this district of Newcastle upon Tyne. In a previous film, seen two years ago, they were resented in the community into which they had been born. Tonight, we see

them in their modern environment — not as friendly as the old one, but at least it's warm in winter. 8.30 Big Jim and the Figure Club: Another film in this comedy series about a gang of building workers and their enemy, the clerk of works. (See Choice). 9.00 Rhoda: Comedy series, set in New York. Can Rhoda's dining companion manage himself (literally) in time for their important date? 9.25 Top Crown: Third match in the BBC 2 Invitation Pairs Tournament. The holders are Top Crown Trophy. Mike Leach of Lancashire and Noel Burrows of Greater Manchester — take in two players from

include Caroline Bradley and Michael Pyral. 10.45 Cosmos: Another film in Carl Sagan's series about adventures in space and time. Tonight, voyages from the past 15th century explorers crossing the Atlantic to the present (Voyager spacecraft exploring the Jupiter planetary system). 11.35 News headlines. Closedown at 11.40 approximately.

### Regions

BBC variations. BBC CYMRU. 6.30-7.00. 7.00-7.30. 7.30-8.00. 8.00-8.30. 8.30-9.00. 9.00-9.30. 9.30-10.00. 10.00-10.30. 10.30-11.00. 11.00-11.30. 11.30-12.00. 12.00-12.30. 12.30-1.00. 1.00-1.30. 1.30-2.00. 2.00-2.30. 2.30-3.00. 3.00-3.30. 3.30-4.00. 4.00-4.30. 4.30-5.00. 5.00-5.30. 5.30-6.00. 6.00-6.30. 6.30-7.00. 7.00-7.30. 7.30-8.00. 8.00-8.30. 8.30-9.00. 9.00-9.30. 9.30-10.00. 10.00-10.30. 10.30-11.00. 11.00-11.30. 11.30-12.00. 12.00-12.30. 12.30-1.00. 1.00-1.30. 1.30-2.00. 2.00-2.30. 2.30-3.00. 3.00-3.30. 3.30-4.00. 4.00-4.30. 4.30-5.00. 5.00-5.30. 5.30-6.00. 6.00-6.30. 6.30-7.00. 7.00-7.30. 7.30-8.00. 8.00-8.30. 8.30-9.00. 9.00-9.30. 9.30-10.00. 10.00-10.30. 10.30-11.00. 11.00-11.30. 11.30-12.00. 12.00-12.30. 12.30-1.00. 1.00-1.30. 1.30-2.00. 2.00-2.30. 2.30-3.00. 3.00-3.30. 3.30-4.00. 4.00-4.30. 4.30-5.00. 5.00-5.30. 5.30-6.00. 6.00-6.30. 6.30-7.00. 7.00-7.30. 7.30-8.00. 8.00-8.30. 8.30-9.00. 9.00-9.30. 9.30-10.00. 10.00-10.30. 10.30-11.00. 11.00-11.30. 11.30-12.00. 12.00-12.30. 12.30-1.00. 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